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STATE COLLEGE, PA.

Ap 22 '41

THE PENNSYLVANIA BEEKEEPER



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VOL. 16 NO. 1

APRIL, 1941

The Pennsylvania Beekeeper

Official Organ of the Pennsylvania State Beekeepers' Association, Published Quarterly. Membership and Subscription Price inclusive \$1.00

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The following is the report of the:

38th Annual Meeting of the Pennsylvania State Beekeepers Association, held in connection with the Pennsylvania State Farm Show, January 22nd and 23rd, 1941.

The group met in room D, of the Main Show Building, and was called to order by the president Elmer F. Reustle at 9:30 Wednesday morning, January 22nd.

The Address of Welcome was given by the Honorable John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture.

HON. JOHN H. LIGHT
Secretary of Agriculture

I do not know that I can say much this morning. In fact I am not going to make an intensive speech.

We have twenty-six associations meeting in this building this week and naturally they have special interests. It may be of interest to you to know that twenty-five years ago, when the Farm Show opened that there were only six organizations interested. Now in the Farm Show there are thirty-nine organizations of which your organization is one, and twenty-six are actually meeting.

I do not know the first thing about beekeeping as a profession but in so far as the bee industry is concerned,

I think you are entitled to recognition. There are thousands of people in the State engaged in the bee industry. I should like to say however that no line of farm activity lasts long unless it has one sizeable organization. That is true of beekeepers as well as any other group. It is my feeling that the State Beekeepers' Association has an obligation; possibly a serious obligation to inform and to interest the County Beekeepers so they in turn will form organizations. It is not easy—it is rather difficult to work with individuals.

During this last summer the Bureau of Plant Industry inspected 53,000 colonies of bees. We covered practically one-third of the colonies in the State. We expect to inspect another third of the colonies this year. In 1942 they all should be inspected. We are going to carry on this work in the next year, but I would like to say to you men and women today that I believe that the people in the commonwealth through their organizations have an intense interest in their own business. I run into that every day.

I should like to see the day when every community in the State has a live beekeeping association which will bring to the central organization those matters which they think should be

given state wide attention. I should like to do everything possible for the beekeepers in so far as the law permits. We ask the beekeepers of the State to bring your problems to the Commonwealth. This is the only way we can learn your problems and get anywhere. I believe the beekeepers held an important place in Pennsylvania agriculture.

We want to be of help to you but we are not going to tell you what to do. If there is anything in our ability, that we can do, we will try to help you just as much as we help any other group. I am glad to be here this morning and every time you have a problem we shall be glad to talk with you.

The next subject was: A County Agent's Experience in Beekeeping—A. E. Ifft, Stroudsburg, Pa. Mr. Ifft was unable to be present because of illness in his family.

METHODS OF TREATING AMERICAN FOUL BROOD

Talk given at the convention by Harry W. Beaver

In 1899 I went to Groton, N. Y. to work for W. L. Coggs to learn beekeeping, he being the largest beekeeper in the state at that time and somewhat in the lime light. It was at that time that there was an outbreak of foul brood in eastern New York. W. L. as we called him wanted to see for himself just how bad the situation

was, and took a trip thru the Hudson river section. In one valley alone the inspectors burned 10,000 colonies. About that time William McEvoy discovered that bees could be saved by shaking them onto full combs of honey late in the fall after brood rearing had ceased and later some shook onto starters and left them for two days and then again shook onto full sheets of foundation. Each of these methods were successful if great care was exercised. Harry S. Howe was studying in Cornell University trying to discover a cure by using some chemical but to no avail, however he was the first to discover that there were two different kinds of foul brood, the one which was then known as the York State black brood and later renamed European foul brood. This spread badly in the black bees which were kept at that time, but since the introduction of good Italian stock it has almost disappeared.

In 1916 we had an outbreak of A. F. B. in all our colonies. I considered killing the whole outfit and starting new, but at that time bees were scarce and packages high so I figured that better than to pay out \$2500.00 for bees I would shake the bees onto foundation. This I did, melting up all the combs and using foundation throughout. Instead of shaking first onto starters, I shook direct on the foundation using a clean comb at the one side of the hive to catch the honey that the bees had in their sacs and taking them out after 24 hours.

This operation has to be done when the honey flow starts before there is new honey in the hives. We had 600 colonies and doubled them down to 300 when shaking. We had very few recurrences of the disease.

About that time a man by the name of Demaree advanced the idea of putting the queen of a diseased colony in a clean hive with full sheets of foundation, at the beginning of the clover flow and placing the old brood nest above a honey board on the new brood nest and have a tube coming out of the upper brood nest and extending down to the entrance of the lower body. The idea being that the bees as they hatched would come out for a flight and then go into the lower hive. This worked well but for a commercial beekeeper it was too fussy.

Then along about 1918, J. C. Hutzelman discovered and patented a solution of formalin and alcohol which was hailed as the cure-all for A. F. B. It was as good a cure as any that we tried, the objection to it was that unless handled out in the open and with rubber gloves the one handling it was liable to not have any skin left on his hands or lungs, as it had to be extracted out of the combs after soaking for 48 hours.

We still have some of these combs in our outfit which are still good and I do not think they ever were the cause of any recurrence of the disease. Next came the gas cure. Just extract the honey out of the combs

and wash them and put them in a gas chamber using formalin gas for a week or so and they were O. K. to use again, but we found out that we had too many recurrences. Next came another method and believe me I tried them all as they came along. This consisted of gassing the bees and melting up the combs and burning out the hives and boiling the frames. The first year we killed 280 colonies, next year we had 70, and the next 36 and last year 15 and we hope this year we will not see any, but that would be too good to be true for usually there are a few small beekeepers in the neighborhood that have a few hives that may or may not have disease. And so I close with this advice, if you have but a few or badly diseased bees, burn them.

HARRY B. KIRK

State Apiary Inspector
Harrisburg, Pa.

APIARY INSPECTION IN PENNSYLVANIA

The inspection of apiaries in the Season of 1940 was done according to the usual area plan of inspection, except that instead of selecting counties scattered about the State, the inspection of a solid block of counties in the western area was decided on. This block of counties inspected, included almost one-third of the total number of beekeepers in the State.

Eight thousand nine hundred twenty-

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three apiaries, representing 52,837 colonies of bees were inspected. Eight per cent of this number were infected with disease; 6.4% were in illegal hives; 3,915 colonies were burned and four beekeepers were prosecuted. These figures mean a little in themselves, but by comparing results with previous years of inspection, it is possible to get some idea of the progress made. In 1932 when a similar number of inspectors were employed, and a like number of bees inspected, 9.8% were found diseased; 15% in illegal hives, and 4,130 colonies burned. In 1938-39-40 six beekeepers were prosecuted. These figures will indicate to you some idea of cooperation between the inspectors and beekeepers today as compared with earlier years.

The plan used this season, if continued will give us a much better check on results obtained, especially if the State is completely covered with an inspection every three years. Generally speaking, Pennsylvania beekeepers are evenly scattered throughout the state, that is, there is no extended areas where beekeepers are not located. Therefore, one area presents practically the same problems as any other.

Considerable interest has been shown by the officials in the Department of Agriculture in our bee program, and it is their intention to employ, if pos-

sible, a sufficient number of inspectors to cover the balance of the State during the next two years. While considerable improvement has been noticed in the willingness of the beekeepers to cooperate with the inspectors and in the reduction of illegal hives, there is still too much time taken to inspect apiaries situated in various locations, difficult to handle colonies in illegal hives, and many colonies are equipped with miscellaneous frames and combs difficult to remove from the hive bodies. We are suggesting to these beekeepers that they give more attention to the conditions of frames and combs. A supply of frames with full sheets of foundations should always be on hand. When examining or inspecting an apiary, you can remove an unsuitable comb or two and replace it with a frame of foundation carefully wired, and in this way you will keep your colonies up to the maximum efficiency of brood rearing and honey gathering. Then too, it is really surprising, the lack of ability of so many beekeepers to determine one brood disease from the other. Sac brood, European foulbrood and American foulbrood are constantly being confused one with the other. In view of the fact that so little European foulbrood has been found, the past few years, beekeepers are still calling many typical examples of American foulbrood, European foulbrood, and at-

tempting to eliminate the disease by the use of stock resistant to European foulbrood only. I could cite many instances where many colonies had to be destroyed in late years, due to a careless examination of affected brood. It is a very simple matter to cut out a small sample of comb and have it analyzed by competent persons. There are many small beekeepers throughout the State who are too willing to depend on the inspection by a state bee inspector as guaranteeing a clean bill of health for too long a time after an inspection has been made. This lack of interest on the part of the beekeeper is by far the chief cause of our high percentage of disease found each year. Eight per cent found last season is entirely too much infection for a good beekeeping community. It is the purpose of this discussion to find the chief causes of this condition and discuss methods to reduce its percentage to a safer level.

I believe the three main causes of this condition are, first, the condition of the colonies and the location of the apiaries; second, the lack of care on the part of the beekeeper himself in the careful inspection of his own colonies and third the necessary periodical inspections by the State Department of Agriculture in the enforcement of the Pennsylvania Bee Law.

Definite improvement has been noticed in the illegal hive condition and in the willingness of beekeepers to assist and cooperate with the State In-

spectors. On the other hand, while I don't want to be too severe in criticizing the methods used by many beekeepers, I still believe our greatest problem is the lack of a systematic plan of inspection by the beekeeper himself in the inspection of his own bees.

A beekeeper can begin in the winter time by examining colonies any day when the bees are flying, taking special note of weak ones, to be examined later. The next inspection can be made in March especially of the weaker colonies, always keeping a lookout for colonies being robbed. A very careful inspection can be made in April or May prior to the time when brood space or supers are added. Anytime thereafter, a frame or two of sealed brood can be examined when the colonies are manipulated for any purpose. Care should always be taken when purchasing any used bee equipment with or without bees, as many infections have been started from this cause.

Many improvements will result through the additional number of contacts made by the state bee inspectors if the proposed three year plan is carried out.

In conclusion I wish to thank the members of the Pennsylvania Beekeepers' Association and all county organizations associated with them. It is through the combined efforts of these bodies that the present bee law has been enacted and money provided for its enforcement.

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| | | | |
|----------------------------|----------|-------------------------|----------|
| Jan. 1, 1940, Cash Balance | \$ 38.26 | Disbursements: | |
| Receipts: | | Bee Journal | \$ 28.50 |
| Adv. Beekeeper | 264.24 | Stationery Supplies | 65.50 |
| State Dues | 241.50 | Secretary Salary | 65.00 |
| Bee Journal | 28.50 | Penna. Beekeeper | 287.50 |
| Honey Institute | 1.85 | Miscellaneous | 103.52 |
| Miscellaneous | 64.00 | Total Disbursements | 550.02 |
| Total 1940 Receipts | 600.09 | Balance end of year | 227.61 |
| Savings Account | 185.56 | Total | 827.63 |
| Interest on Same | 3.72 | U. S. Bond \$2000.00 | |
| Total | 827.63 | Savings | \$189.28 |
| | | In bank | 60.83 |
| | | Cash in Treasurers Hand | 27.50 |
| | | Total | 277.61 |

I also want to personally express my appreciation of the interest shown by the present Secretary of Agriculture and his associates.

I believe that with the possibility of the three year program going into effect and a special effort made by each beekeeper in the control of disease in his own yards Pennsylvania will see a decided reduction in the disease condition during the next few years, and the State will not only boast of having the greatest number of beekeepers, but in having American foulbrood under control as well.

Wednesday Afternoon, Jan. 22, 1:30

The report of the Secretary-Treasurer, H. M. Snavely was read and accepted by the Association as read. The financial records were turned over to the auditing committee.

The report of the auditing committee is as follows:

Report of the President

Mr. Reustle gave an interesting report of the progress of the State Association during 1940 and the aims for the coming year.

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Despite bad weather causing more queen losses in general, fewer complaints came to us and losses reported promptly were replaced with **packages**, not just queens. I think it pays to be generous with a good customer who has been unfortunate.

We have doubled our number of colonies during the summer and all have young queens of vigorous but gentle stock.

Correspondence welcome at all times. Satisfaction guaranteed.

Morley Pettit : Tifton, Georgia

HEATING AND BOTTLING HONEY

Roy H. Herr, Lancaster, Pa.

Judging from the number of different methods and different types of apparatus which are used for the purpose, it is apparent that the heating of honey has long been more or less of a problem to bee and honey men.

I have come to the conclusion that our degree of success in processing honey depends to a considerable extent upon the treatment given the honey from the moment it was removed from the honey comb.

In my opinion there is little we can do to improve the quality of good, ripened honey as the bees sealed it in the cells of the comb. On the other hand, I believe there is much we can do to deteriorate such honey.

The honey extracting methods I am familiar with, usually incorporate in the liquid honey certain amounts of foreign matter such as particles of wax, propolis, etc. In the interest of

good results, I feel that this foreign material should be removed before the honey is heated to any great extent.

Honey can easily be damaged by a number of improper heating practices. In this connection, a beekeeper we will call Herman, one evening visited his beekeeper friend, whom we will call Bruce. As we might well expect, the conversation turned to various phases of beekeeping. Finally Herman said, "How do you liquify and bottle your honey?" "Well, answered Bruce, as we need it, we place a 60 lb. can of crystallized honey right in the hot bake-oven of the kitchen range and leave it there until it is liquid. Then we take it out, strain it into another can and bottle it." Turning to his wife, Bruce said, "Will you show Herman a bottle of our honey." So she, as all obedient beekeeper's wives would do, brought in a sample of honey which appeared to have been overheated. She explained, "this honey came from a can that was heated when

the oven was a little too hot." "No, corrected her husband, the oven was not too hot; the can of honey was left in the oven too long." I dare say that between the two of them, this couple knew something about heating honey. They knew that if honey was not damaged by heating to a temperature that is too high, honey could be ruined by maintaining a high temperature for too long a period of time.

In honey heating, the elements of temperature and time are interrelated in a very interesting fashion. Our own Prof. Anderson called to my attention;—a sample of honey may be heated to 130° F. for 10 or 12 hours, with very slight change in color. An identical sample, heated to 165° F. would darken to the same extent in about 15 minutes. Therefore as temperature is increased, the length of time must be decreased rapidly.

We all know that honey varies greatly with regard to flavor and color.

Honey also differs with regard to crystallization, heat necessary to liquify it, and with regard to the amount of heat which can safely be applied to it. Some types of honey granulate into fine easily melted crystals, some types form coarse hard crystals requiring much more heat to liquify. Usually the darker varieties are most easily damaged by heat.

In view of these varied characteristics of honey, it would be difficult to say just what is the right temperature for liquifying honey. If honey is crystallized in 60 lb. tins, as is much of the honey which I process, I think the heating should proceed at a moderate rate until the honey has reached the semi-liquid stage or a temperature of slightly over 100° F. The rate of temperature rise may then be somewhat accelerated until the desired maximum temperature is reached.

It is possible that some honey is damaged by heating methods which are

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We will work your beeswax into comb foundation at very low prices. Write us.

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too rapid at the beginning of the process; this results in some of the honey being scorched while most of the crystallized chunk is entirely unheated. On the other hand, I feel that honey can be damaged by heating methods which are too slow near the finish of the process. To explain what I mean; a conscientious beekeeper decided that he would no longer damage his honey by exposing it to dangerous high temperatures. Near the end of a run he was surprised to find a sprinkling of crystals on the bottom of his nearly-empty heating tank. These crystals had refused to melt at his operating temperature of less than 150°. He hoped that his strainer had prevented any of these crystals finding their way into the bottles. A few days later his hopes faded when many of his jars of honey were beginning to re-crystallize. This run of bottled honey was then placed in a moderate-temperature oven and by the time it liquified completely, it had darkened

and the flavor was seriously impaired.

My normal bottling practice is to process moderate amounts of honey just in advance of actual sales, therefore the equipment I use was planned primarily to handle 60s of crystallized honey, and is built around the dry heating chamber principle. It consists of an insulated box which is heated by a small hand-fired coal-burning hot water heater, which is piped to a fin-type convection radiator installed in the rear wall of the chamber. A small motor driven fan circulates a current of air thru the radiator, and maintains a rather uniform distribution of heat thru-out the cabinet. Heat control is provided by a high grade damper regulator mounted on the heater.

The dimensions of the cabinet are approximately 32" in height, 52" in width, and 30" deep, inside measure. This accommodates 8 60 lb. tins plus a shallow, oblong tank installed in the bottom. The tank is 8¾ in. high, 25 in. wide, 49 in. long, is made of 24

ga. stainless steel and has ample capacity for the contents of the 8 cans.

In operation the cans of honey are placed in the chamber in an inverted position with a slight inclination so that the unmelted chunk of honey will not plug the opening of the can. As the honey melts it drains into the blending and heating tank below. The warming process continues there and by the time the honey is melted from the cans it has reached approximately 120°. The cans are then tilted so they may drain completely. At the same time a hot water coil (which is immersed in the honey) is turned on. This coil is made of 17 feet of 1 inch copper tube, chrome plated. Water, heated by the same coal-burning heater, is circulated rapidly through the coil by a small motor-driven pump. To prevent overheating of the honey adjacent to the coil surfaces, the temperature of the water passing through the coil is operated at about 20° higher

than the temperature of the honey itself. This temperature difference continues automatically until the desired maximum honey temperature is reached. The controlled heating action of the coil, operating in conjunction with the hot air which surrounds the tank of honey, is capable of raising the honey temperature from 125° to 155° in an hour and a half.

A bottle filler is used for bottling the hot honey. The honey, on its way from the tank to the filler, passes through a cylindrical metal strainer of 70 mesh to the inch. Operating under a flood condition (i. e. the honey does not drop in a stream from one level to another) troublesome foam and air bubbles are avoided.

From the standpoint of delaying re-crystallization, I have always had much better results from honey bottled and sealed while hot. Hot honey should be bottled as rapidly as possible, and should be allowed to cool before pack-

New 1941 Catalogue Now Ready

MANUFACTURERS OF HONEY EXTRACTORS

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Capping Melters, Storage Tanks, Wax Presses
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Big Honey Producers using our equipment, show hired help extracting costs at less than 10c per 100 pounds. This is a factor to consider with low price honey.

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ing into shipping cartons. Jars of hot honey will cool readily, if spread out in rows, allowing some space between. The use of a small fan directed on the jars will further speed the cooling process.

I believe every consumer of honey prefers to purchase honey from a source supplying a product which is uniform in color, uniform in flavor, and free from objectionable material.

If and when all honey offered for sale possesses these good qualities, I believe we will have traveled far in the direction of better honey selling conditions.

REPORT OF RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

January 23, 1941

Be it resolved:

1. That the Pennsylvania Beekeepers' Association express to the Farm Show Commission, their ap-

preciation for the use of a meeting room, and the space allotted for the display of Apiary products.

2. That an appropriate sign be placed over the entrance to the Old Arena where bee products are on display.
3. That all apiaries that are found to be infected with A. F. B. on first inspection be re-inspected the following year.
4. That the Game Laws to be amended so that the beekeeper suffering loss by damage or destruction caused by bears be reimbursed for such loss.
5. That all queen bees of disease resistant stock that are available from the Department of Washington be sent to Pennsylvania State College.
6. That the Pennsylvania Beekeepers' Association support the American Honey Producers Institute. Amount not to exceed \$25.

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7. That we pay dues to the Agricultural Council of Pennsylvania.
8. That sympathy cards be sent to relatives of deceased members.

Signed—

Mr. E. G. Cornwall
Mr. Walter A. Doud
Mr. Robert Johnson

REPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE

January 22, 1941

Pennsylvania State Beekeepers' Association:

At the Executive Committee meeting of the Pennsylvania State Beekeepers' Association at the Y. M. C. A., Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, December 12, 1940, the proposal by the Luzerne County Bee Association, regarding additional inspection for our State, was turned over to our committee for consideration and action. It was instructed by the president that we report our findings and advice to the beekeepers today so they can take action.

The following is the action taken by the committee:

After hearing the reading of the

proposed amendment, the committee unanimously moved, seconded, and approved the proposal and that it be:

- (1) Submitted to the Association for corrections and approval.
- (2) Submit the proposal to the Secretary of Agriculture for consideration, corrections, and approval.

Our committee also reports the news that there is a bill proposed that will establish research work at the Penn State College if it is submitted to the Legislature and is passed. Mr. Reustle explained to the committee our present knowledge of the proposed appropriation bill as formulated by the Pennsylvania Agricultural Council, which included \$8500 for Mr. Anderson's department. It was mentioned that our Association has lapsed its membership in this Agricultural Council. Mr. Cornwall moved that:

- (1) The Association be advised to renew their membership in the Agricultural Council which is \$5 per annum.



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White Pine Bee Farms, Rockton, Pa.

Clearfield County

(2) The Association seek more information regarding this.

Respectfully submitted,

Leonard E. Good
Chairman Leg. and Research
Committee

MOTIONS

It was moved and seconded that we join the Agricultural Council. The motion carried.

The recommendations of the legislative committee were accepted by the Association with the exception: the bill have the word, "Deputy Inspector," crossed out and the wording should be changed in regards time and method of re-inspecting apiaries.

Moved and seconded that we go to Adams County for our annual summer meeting. Motion carried.

It was reported by Robert Johnson that a disease colony had been taken to Sam Miller for him to prove to the committee his ability to clean up foul brood. The committee found that the colony had not been cleaned up.

It was moved and seconded that the two counties not offiliated with the Association be contacted and asked to

join the State Association. Motion carried.

It was moved and seconded that the secretary be authorized to purchase a cabinet that will meet his needs for filing membership cards. Motion carried.

It was moved and seconded that committee expenses shall not exceed \$10 for promoting the bill to provide more money for inspection. Motion carried.

It was moved and seconded that the Legislative Committee continue to function and rewrite the inspection bill until it is in shape and can be presented to the Department of Agriculture. Motion carried.

It was moved and seconded that resolutions be adopted as read and amended. Motion carried.

It was moved and seconded that the report of the publishing committee be accepted and that the committee continue and endeavor to make whatever improvements are possible. Motion carried.

It was moved that the report of the Auditors be accepted. It carried.

It was moved that the treasurer's

report be accepted. The motion carried.

It was moved that the Association pay \$25 to American Honey Institute. The motion carried.

Counties Represented at the Banquet

| | |
|--------------|--------------|
| Cumberland | Philadelphia |
| Monroe | Luzerne |
| Delaware | Center |
| Blair | Northampton |
| Adams | |
| Westmoreland | Lehigh |

A motion was made at the banquet that, since the election of officers had not been held in the afternoon as scheduled in the program, the election be held at the banquet. The motion was seconded and carried.

ELECTION

CANDIDATES FOR PRESIDENT

Mr. Elmer Reustle, Philadelphia, Pa.
Mr. Harry Beaver, Troy, Pa.
Mr. Roy Herr, Lancaster, Pa.
Mr. Leonard Good, Mountain Top, Pa.
Mr. Elmer Reustle was elected for president during the coming year.

A motion was moved and seconded by H. S. Lute and William Singer that the other officers be retained. The motion carried, therefore the officers are as follows:

PRESIDENT—Elmer F. Reustle, 2851
Germantown Ave., Phila., Pa.

VICE-PRESIDENT—Mr. Thomas A.
Berkey, Easton, Pa.

SECRETARY-TREASURER—Mr. H.
M. Snively, Carlisle, Pa.

JUDGE AND TELLERS

Mr. Harry B. Kirk Judge
Mr. Al Trainer Teller
Mr. William Singer Teller

The report of the meeting will be continued in the next issue.

MEETING OF LEGISLATIVE AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE WITH THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE,

March 21, 1941

As far as the welfare of the beekeepers of Penna. is concerned, very definite progress has been made under the administration of Mr. John Light. A three year program has been successfully put into effect, having been started last year. Last year the western third of our State was inspected or about 52,000 colonies of bees. With the inspection of the middle third of the State in 1941 it is hoped even more will be accomplished. Efforts will be directed at burning more of the A. F. B. when it is found. Next year, 1942, the third part of the State or the east will be inspected in the same manner.

At the same time that inspection is carried on in the middle part of the State in 1941, the follow-up work will be done in the western part. This follow-up consists of visiting every apiary that had A. F. B. last year and also the delinquent beekeepers who had illegal hives or cross-comb hives and did not take care of them as directed by the inspector. In addition, the department will cooperate with the Counties that appropriate money for

WILSON'S

1120 COLLEGE AVE., ELMIRA, N. Y.

BEE SUPPLIES—BEST QUALITY

(Lewis Woodenware and Dadant's Foundations)

BIG STOCK—QUICK DELIVERY anywhere N. Y. State or Penna.

HONEY CANS

60-lb. Cans
Plain and Cased

Honey Pails
10, 5 and 2½-lb.

The Conneaut Can Co.
Conneaut, Ohio.

"falcon" Beekeepers' Supplies

Are guaranteed to be satisfactory in every way or money returned. No questions asked.

Buy Beekeepers Supplies in the east. Save time and freight. Write for catalog.

W. T. FALCONER MFG. CO.

FALCONER, N. Y.
Established 134 Years Ago

inspection in their own counties, regardless of which section they are in. The funds for this program are provided for in the general agricultural appropriation, which it is hoped will be passed by the Legislature very shortly.

In the course of the meeting a new subject arose for consideration. Mr. Light referred to a possible co-ordinated educational program that might be sponsored or at least initiated by the Penna. Beekeepers Association. Very definite need was seen in the way of preparing and disseminating educational matter to all beekeepers of our Commonwealth. It was planned and hoped that some sort of a program could be put into effect whereby the beekeepers would be instructed in the proper care of their bees, it would assist in bettering the marketing conditions, and especially to be an aid in the inspection of all bees in our State. Many of the Counties in the State have a very high percentage of A. F. B. disease, and it was agreed that action aside from the inspection work be taken to help the beekeepers reduce the A. F. B. menace. Especially was the Secretary and the Members of the Committee concerned about the beekeepers who were not directly connected with the State Beekeepers Association or some other organization that

is interested in bees and honey. Some of the organizations or agencies that might be consulted and asked to help are as follows:

(1) The State Beekeepers Association, through a committee, take the first steps in an effort to co-ordinate the work and educational methods of these agencies. The other agencies are to be introduced to the plan and be asked to co-operate.

(2) The proposal be presented to Mr. Anderson of State College for further consideration and assistance.

(3) The county Farm Agents are to be contacted and asked for any assistance that they can render to the cause.

(4) The 4-H clubs in beekeeping are to be consulted and asked to help co-ordinate their activities and efforts to the plan.

(5) The W. P. A. teaching projects in beekeeping are to be asked for support of the program.

(6) Other Farm organizations as the Farm Granges, Farmers' Unions, Fruit growers organizations, etc. are to be consulted, to line-up behind the plan.

It was learned by the Secretary that where organizations, relating to beekeeping, were active that the inspection work was made much easier for the Inspector. Especially was this true

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION BLANK

Enclosed find \$1.00 for one year's membership in the Pennsylvania Beekeepers Association. Including a years subscription to the Pennsylvania Beekeeper.

Signed

PACKAGE BEES

TIME TESTED ITALIANS — THRIFTY AND GENTLE
2 lb. with laying queen \$2.00; 3 lb. with young laying queen \$2.60
Quantity Discounts. Lower prices after May 15th. Write us.

GRENSHAW COUNTY APIARIES, Rutledge, Ala.

where there were active 4-H clubs in beekeeping, etc.

The Secretary suggested that a meeting be arranged in which representatives of any or all of these organizations might meet and work out some practical plan. This is then to be taken up with the Secretary at a meeting where further action might be taken. The Secretary promised to have a representative of the Bureau of Markets present and any other persons interested that he might be able to have come.

Another matter that was brought up was the rising need of stricter regulations of the bottling and marketing of honey. There was seen a definite need for uniform bottles and weights for the packing of honey. Inspection of honey-houses and packing plants was deemed necessary. The filtration process in preparing extracted honey for the market was believed to be de-

trimental to the honey industry.

Mr. Reustle at first expressed the approval and sincere appreciation for the good work and the additional inspection done by the Department since Mr. Light has been secretary. Approval of this statement was voiced by every member present.

The following were present at the meeting:

Mr. Light, Secretary of Agriculture.
Mr. Hagar, Deputy Secretary of Agriculture.

Mr. Bell, Director, Bureau of Plant Industry.

Mr. Kirk, Chief Apiary Inspector.
Mr. Reustle, President of Penna. Beekeepers Association.

Mr. H. M. Snavely, Secretary of Penna. Beekeepers Association.

Mr. Good, Chairman Legislative and Research Committee.

Mr. Howells, Member Legislative and Research Committee.

Why Use Poor Queens ?

When Good Queens Will Pay More

I ship pure Three Band Italian Queens every month of the year. All are fully **Guaranteed**.

Price to June 1st—60c each—any number

D. W. HOWELL

Shellman,

Georgia

Mr. Trainer, Member Legislative and Research Committee.
Mr. Brehm, Member Legislative and Research Committee.
Respectfully Submitted,
Leonard E. Good,
(Chairman Legislative Committee)

"HONEYBEES" — The Farmers Silent Partners

By Frank Tinari, Bethayres

It is due time that some real research work be done to increase crop production through pollinization by the honeybee. We are told that the honeybees are fifteen times more valuable to the agriculturist than they are for honey gathering. The orchardist, seed grower, and the agriculturist all realize the necessity of pollinization by the honeybee. The necessity for obtaining bees to pollinize beans and cucumbers is fast being recognized by

the commercial farmer. This is especially true in the growing of cucumbers, since they have male and female flowers. The growers realize larger yields per acre for the same cost of operation when bees help pollenate the blossoms.

The beekeeper who rents bees will have many problems; first, to move bees to the farmers grounds in time to pollinize his crops; second, hives must be strong, two-story type with plenty of bees and stores, and third, bees must be located near a source of fresh water. Fresh water is necessary, since the crops are sprayed and bees would gather moisture from their leaves and bring death to their young larvae if forced to gather water from the leaves. Bees used for this purpose must be located where they will do the farmer most good as near the object to be pollinated as possible. Periodic care is necessary as bees gather

Northern Package Bees and Nucelii from Florida

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Packages with young queens | 2 Lbs. | 3 Lbs. | 4 Lbs. |
| | \$1.70 | \$2.30 | \$2.90 |
| Nucelii with young queens | 1 frame | 2 frame | 3 frame |
| | \$1.50 | \$2.10 | \$2.70 |
| Queens, 60c each | | | |

Bees are from same strain as we use in New York State for honey production. Guaranteed no disease and prompt shipment.

Prices on bees and nucelii not good after April 25th. We might be able to deliver quantity orders about May 1st. Write for quantity prices and details. Florida queens until May 1st, later from our queen yard at Groton, N. Y.

B. B. COGGSHALL & SON
(Groton, N. Y.) Box 91 Minneola, Fla.

a small amount of honey from beans, and cucumbers yield an abundant supply of pollen which stimulates brood rearing in July. Because of this stimulus, swarms issue in August which are usually lost since the beekeeper cannot be there daily, therefore, enough compensation must be realized to counter-balance their loss and other expenses involved. The farmer and beekeeper must work hand in hand to better understand conditions confronting them.

NOTES FROM CUMBERLAND COUNTY

H. M. Snaveley, Sec.

The County Beekeepers met February 18, in the Agricultural Extension Office, in Carlisle. The meeting was well attended during the evening session. In the afternoon a report was given of the Farm Show exhibits, and also of the inspection work done in the county and state by Mr. H. B. Kirk, State Inspector. Mr. E. J. Anderson, Extension Apiarist, was with us and gave an address in the afternoon. In the evening, Mr. Anderson showed a new reel of motion pictures on honey house equipment. Mrs. P. M. Beam gave a splendid talk on the use of honey in the menu.

The election of officers resulted as follows: P. M. Beam, President; F. W. Boldosser, Vice President; H. M. Snaveley, Sec.-Treas. It was also decided to contribute \$5.00 to American Honey Institute for the year.

Plans were discussed for the promotion of the summer picnic of the State Ass'n., which will be held in Adams County about the third Saturday of August.

The presence of Mr. E. H. Hess was

missed. He was always present at the meetings and took an active part. Mr. Hess passed away January 26.

Enos H. Hess has been prominent in the agriculture of Pennsylvania for many years. He graduated in agriculture from Pennsylvania State College in 1900, then became assistant to the Director of the Pennsylvania Experiment Station, also active in the work of farmers' institute. He was one of the founders of Messiah Bible College, which he served efficiently as vice-president and president for twenty-four years. His special interest in agriculture for many years was mainly in dairying, but in recent years in apiculture, he being one of the leading honey producers of the state. His interest in all agriculture progress and in education made his life useful and helpful, and his example worthy of emulation.

LANCASTER COUNTY NOTES

By D. L. Burkholder, Sec.-Treas.

The Lancaster County Honey Producers Association held its annual meeting Thursday, February 20th, 1941, at 1:00 P. M. in the Farm Bureau Auditorium, Lancaster, Pa. The President, Roy H. Herr presided. The meeting was not as well attended as usual, possibly for two reasons, "First, the day was cold and stormy, and second, we have not had a fair Honey crop in the past four years, which seemed to cause the interest among beekeepers to some-what fade out. The beekeepers are turning their interests to other activities. We are, however, looking forward to a better season in 1941 which should again revive the beekeeping spirit.

Some of the activities of the meeting

PRICES FOR CHOICE BRIGHT ITALIAN QUEENS
65 cents each, \$7.00 per doz., \$50.00 per hundred.

EMIL W. GUTEKUNST
COLDEN, New York

were election of officers which resulted in a re-election of Roy H. Herr, President; John K. Hershey, Vice-President; D. L. Burkholder, Sec'y-Treasurer.

The speaker for the afternoon was Mr. E. J. Anderson from Penna. State College, who gave a talk on colony conditions, and showed several reels of motion pictures. One on extracting, heating and bottling honey, and the other on package bees and orchard pollination.

The other day, March 13, after the snow was nearly gone, I walked out through the fields to make a survey of plant conditions. The plants seemed to be well rooted in the soil, and not frozen out and exposed as often is the case at this season of the year. In fact, the clover is pushing tiny leaves already.

We regret the passing away of one of our old faithful members, Joseph P. Kirk, seventy, who died Wednesday, Oct. 2, 1940, after an illness of several

months at his home near Peach Bottom.

Mr. Kirk was orphaned at an early age and spent the greater part of his boyhood days with his aunt, Mrs. Hannah Tollinger at Peach Bottom, Pa. When Mr. Kirk grew to a mature age, he went to the City of Philadelphia and worked as a machinist for the Baldwin Locomotive Works. After spending several years at this trade, he returned to the old homestead near Peach Bottom, Pa. and engaged in farming. In 1907, he purchased two colonies of bees which were so irritable that he could not handle them. This did not discourage him, he set out to learn more about bees which resulted in his building an apiary of some seventy colonies. Mr. Kirk was always active in the Beekeepers Association as well as all other community affairs.

He took pride in producing fancy prize winning honey and captured many prizes at the local community fairs as well as at the Pennsylvania State Farm Products Show.

KNIGHT'S PACKAGE BEES and QUEENS

Leather Colored Italians,
the best honey gatherers.

| Prices including queens | | | | |
|-------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Packages | 2 lb. | 3 lb. | 4 lb. | 5 lb. |
| 1 to 9 | \$2.10 | \$2.70 | \$3.30 | \$3.90 |
| 10 to 24 | 2.00 | 2.60 | 3.20 | 3.80 |
| 25 to 99 | 1.95 | 2.55 | 3.15 | 3.75 |
| 100 up | 1.80 | 2.35 | 2.95 | 3.55 |

Queenless packages, deduct 65c

After middle of May, 2 lb. packages \$1.60. 3 lb. size \$2.10, including queens, any quantity.

Young laying queens 75c each. 10 or more 65c each until middle of May. After then, 60c each. 10 or more 50c each until June. In June 50c each. 50 or more 45c each. All queens guaranteed mated pure. No charge for clipping.

Jasper Knight, Hayneville, Alabama

LEHIGH COUNTY NOTES FOR 1940

By Mrs. H. M. Dennis

The Lehigh Valley Beekeepers Association is bringing to a close another successful year.

All of the meetings held during the year were interesting and educational, and well attended.

The Annual Banquet held at the Farmersville Church, above Easton, was the best attended in the history of the Association, 132 persons were served with a delicious chicken and waffle dinner and entertained with a delightful program. The main speaker was Dr. F. J. Gremby, biology professor of Lehigh University.

A number of indoor and field meetings were held. A meeting was held in the Edgeboro School, Bethlehem, Pa., by the Northampton Division of the Association. Mr. E. J. Anderson was the principal speaker. President C. T. Woodring presided.

Another outstanding meeting was held in the Science Bldg., Muhlenberg College.

Dr. John V. Shankweiler, head of the department of Biology spoke on "Heredit and the Honey Bee," illustrated with charts and pictures.

Dr. Stephen A. Siklos spoke on the use of the Bee in treating arthritis, illustrating his talk with pictures.

Prof. E. J. Anderson discussed Marketing Honey.

Mr. Harry B. Kirk, State Apiarist, gave a short address.

Prof. E. B. Everitt, Vice-president, arranged the meeting and presided.

LUZERNE COUNTY NOTES

Luzerne County Beekeepers Association is buzzing again with their plans for the third annual banquet. It is to be held at the St. Johns Lutheran Church, St. Johns, Penna., on April 16, 1941. Besides it being a good turkey dinner there is being planned a better program than we have heretofore had. Mr. Elmer Reustle, President of the Penna. State Beekeepers Association will be the guest speaker. It is hoped that as many representatives

of the various agricultural agencies in the County as can come will help the banquet a success. Mr. Kirk, Chief Apiary Inspector will be present. Mr. Anderson will be present and share in the program.

Leonard E. Good, Chairman of the Legislative and Research Committee of the Penna. Beekeepers Association, attended the meeting of this committee with Mr. Light, Secretary of Agriculture on March 21, 1941. The very nice meeting held by the Lehigh-Northampton Co. Association at Muhlenberg College, March 12, 1941, was attended by Mr. Good.

The winter season has been pretty hard on the bees in our County. We have hardly had any open weather to speak of since right after Christmas. On the whole, I think the bees had plenty of stores; but this doesn't say very much when the season is not normal for the bees. It will be interesting to note how the bees come through whose hives were provided with top entrances. This precaution was taken by several beekeepers this year. Last year it proved successful in the apiaries of Robert Johnson. It remains to be seen this spring whether this precaution still holds good and is worth the extra efforts that are needed.

The invitation is extended to any who can attend our banquet. We would like to see a good representation, from, not only our own County, but from the State as well.

Leonard E. Good,

Sec.-Treas. Luzerne Co. Bee Assoc.

BRADFORD COUNTY NOTES

By Harry W. Beaver

Spring has come; altho there is a lot of snow lying about. This has been a fairly good winter for the bees, and there should not be a very heavy loss where they had been well taken care of last fall. With our number and the scarcity of help we did not get them all looked over and consequently there were quite a few that were not up to par when packed and

these we rather expect to come out weak or dead. However all that are alive look nice and dry and comfortable in their quad cases. Just what we are going to do for help is a quandary. What with the low prices for honey and the draft we certainly are left out in the draft. A few years ago when putting an ad in the bee journals we would be swamped with applications. Thirty to thirty-five was the rule. This year we had two and they were high school boys and would not be out of school till June. I just returned from a trip to the lake country and there it is the same. Nearly all the commercial men have not found any help. Clover looks good for the first time in years. Perhaps the lime that the farmers have been using is beginning to become effective.

I for one do not believe in predicting a big honey crop, as we cannot tell what it will be till it is in the hives, and telling of extraordinary conditions only tends to depress prices for the coming crop. So let us be conservative in our reports. I have known the best prospects go glimmering when a cool rainy spell set in about the time the clover began to bloom.

REVIEW OF THE SEASON

By Edwin J. Anderson

The fall was late and made the season appear early until the middle of January. The blossoms had been pushing rapidly in the south and promised to open early. Then about this time it turned cold and stayed cold so that the bees did not develop as they normally do in February and March. There was neither extremely cold nor extremely warm weather to start the queen laying eggs. The bees are still very short in brood and almost as backward as they were at this time last year.

Reports from the south indicate that the breeders are having their troubles again this spring and that early batches of queens have been injured by cold weather. The northern bee-

keepers may have to wait for late shipments and run the risk of losing the early honey flow as they did last spring.

Spring feeding has been recommended for weak colonies so as to stimulate early brood rearing. The stronger colonies never require any special attention as long as their food supply is not exhausted. They generally build up too rapidly. A heavy syrup should be fed weak colonies early in the spring. The syrup should contain at least two parts of sugar to one of water. Thin syrup may cause dysentery when the bees are unable to evaporate the excess moisture.

Winter losses have not been exceptionally heavy so far, most of the losses reported have been due to starvation. A few colonies have died from dysentery. More losses may be expected during the next few weeks unless the weather soon gets warm enough for the bees to bring in some nectar and pollen.

The flowering plants seem to be in good condition. Considerable snow has melted and it has melted slowly so that the water could soak into the ground rather than run off to cause floods. Conditions now look favorable.

Marketing conditions have been good and local supplies of honey are very light. The one discouraging factor is the low prices asked for honey by the western bottlers who are shipping large quantities into the east at lower and lower prices. Local beekeepers can help to relieve this condition a little by putting a high quality product on the market and giving the storekeeper good service. The extra service should permit the local beekeeper to demand a higher price for his product. Experience has shown that it is not necessary to sell a good product at the lowest price that prevails in the market.

There should be many more roadside markets in the state. They help to maintain the demand for Pennsylvania honey.

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THE PENNSYLVANIA BEEKEEPER



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WRITE ME NOW

If you extract honey, look in my catalogue on

Page 31 CAPPING MELTER \$5.00

WAX SEPARATOR \$1.75

Page 34 10 GALLON HONEY HEATER \$7.50

IF YOU PRODUCE SECTION HONEY SEE

1,000 WINDOW COMB HONEY CARTONS \$6.50
(newest style—finest quality)

QUEENS 3 banded 3 for \$1.00
Italians

shipped daily from Paducah

We are maintaining our low 1941 catalogue prices but it appears that all prices will be higher in 1942 as prices have advanced on most items that we buy. We are still able to fill orders on most items the same day as received.

The WALTER. T. KELLEY Co.

PADUCAH, KENTUCKY

Manufacturers of Bee Supplies

The Pennsylvania Beekeeper

Official Organ of the Pennsylvania State Beekeepers' Association, Published Quarterly. Membership and Subscription Price inclusive \$1.00

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PENNSYLVANIA STATE BEEKEEPERS' PICNIC AND FIELD DAY

August 23, 1941

Geiman's Park, Route 34, between
Gettysburg and Biglerville

Morning 9:30-12:00 (Standard Time)

Presiding—Elmer F. Reustle, President,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Registration and Acquaintance—9:30-
10:30.

Address of Welcome—M. T. Hartman,
County Agent, Gettysburg, Pa.

Response—E. B. Everitt, Muhlenburg
College, Allentown, Pa.

Demonstration, Handling and Care of
Comb Honey—E. J. Anderson, Ex-
tension Apiarist, State College, Pa.

Apiary Inspection Work In Penna.—H.
B. Kirk, Senior Entomologist, Har-
risburg, Pa.

Roll Call of Counties, Greetings from
Visitors and Supply Companies.

12:00-1:30

Basket Lunch

Lemonade and Coffee will be furnish-
ed free by Adams, York and Cumber-
land County Associations.

Afternoon 1:30-2:30

Review of Agricultural and Beekeep-
ing Industry in Pennsylvania—Hon.

John H. Light, Secretary of Agri-
culture, Harrisburg, Pa.

Report of Research Work on Resist-
ance to American Foulbrood, and
Research on Pollen—Dr. Jas. I.
Hambleton, In Charge Division of
Bee Culture, Beltsville, Md.

2:30

Games and Contests—E. J. Anderson
and several assistants.

Prizes will be awarded to winners of
games and contests which are the con-
tributions of advertisers in the Penn-
sylvania Beekeeper.

Honey Cooking Contest—Miss Mildred
L. Adams, Home Economics, Gettys-
burg, Pa.

Opportunity to visit the honey plant
of E. H. Sachs, near the picnic grounds,
will be given following the games of
the afternoon about 4:00 or 4:30.

Be sure to bring your bee smoker.

To get to Geiman's Park, go to Get-
tysburg then take route 34 leading to
Carlisle. The Park is about four (4)
miles from Gettysburg on the Carlisle
to Gettysburg highway. If you are
coming from the north, go to Carlisle
or Harrisburg then towards Gettys-
burg. In going from Harrisburg to the
Park, you drive to Gettysburg and turn
right at the first red light as you enter
the town. You are then on route 34
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Research on Pollen—Dr. Jas. I.
Hambleton, In Charge Division of
Bee Culture, Beltsville, Md.

2:30

Games and Contests—E. J. Anderson
and several assistants.

Prizes will be awarded to winners of
games and contests which are the con-
tributions of advertisers in the Pen-
sylvania Beekeeper.

Honey Cooking Contest—Miss Mildred
L. Adams, Home Economics, Gettys-
burg, Pa.

Opportunity to visit the honey plant
of E. H. Sachs, near the picnic grounds,
will be given following the games of
the afternoon about 4:00 or 4:30.

Be sure to bring your bee smoker.

To get to Geiman's Park, go to Get-
tysburg then take route 34 leading to
Carlisle. The Park is about four (4)
miles from Gettysburg on the Carlisle
to Gettysburg highway. If you are
coming from the north, go to Carlisle
or Harrisburg then towards Gettys-
burg. In going from Harrisburg to the
Park, you drive to Gettysburg and turn
right at the first red light as you enter
the town. You are then on route 34
to Carlisle.

HONEY COOKERY CONTEST AT THE PICNIC

Another contest will be conducted this year at the State Picnic for candy and baked products in which honey was used as sweetening. There will be three classes as follows:

Honey candy 1st and 2nd prizes
Honey cookies 1st and 2nd prizes
Honey cake 1st and 2nd prizes

The prizes will consist of beeswax, candles, drip cuts, and beekeeping supplies. The first prize will be, in each case, either candles or a drip cut.

The score card for cakes and cookies will be the same as is used at the State Farm Products Show.

1. For Cakes and Cookies

Flavor
Lightness
General Appearance
Texture

For Candies

Flavor
General Appearance
Consistency

2. The recipe must be with the entry.

There were eleven entries last year, this year there should be twice as many. Wrap your exhibit in cellophane to keep it clean and protect it from the flies.

Games are being arranged for the children by Miss Adams and Miss Beigle.

DISEASE RESISTANT STOCK

By E. J. Anderson, State College, Pa.
The beekeepers of Pennsylvania will be interested to know that six disease-

resistant queens were sent to the six queen-breeders of this State. These queens are the stock developed by the Bee Culture Laboratory and several cooperating State Experiment Stations.

The characteristics of these queens will be observed by the queen breeders and something said about them in the Pennsylvania Beekeeper at a later date. The breeders have had considerable experience observing bees and should be qualified to give a good report. In addition, daughters of these queens will soon be available for distribution to those, who may wish to try this stock and learn something first hand about them.

The names and addresses of the breeders who received these queens are as follows:

Birdie M. Hartle, Reynoldsville, Penna.
J. B. Hollopeter, Rockton, Penna.
Ronald Kirk, Rockton, Penna.
W. P. Lauver, Middletown, Penna.
Charles Wayland, Mayport, R. 1, Penna.
Paul Zeigler, Bethel, Penna.

This stock will not change in any way the present program of disease control and Apiary Inspection since any colony that contracts the American Foulbrood evidently does not carry the resistant characteristics and is therefore of no more value than any ordinary stock. Colonies with these queens should be treated the same as other stock, if any contract A. F. B., they should be killed and burned and the hive disinfected. A beekeeper can not afford to keep an A. F. B. infected colony around hoping that the colony will later cure itself since other colonies will contract the disease in the meantime and cause heavy losses.

DAUGHTERS OF DISEASE RESISTING QUEENS

A limited number of daughters of disease resistant queens are now available for those beekeepers who wish to try them. Price 75c each.

P. S. ZEIGLER, Bethel, Pa.

Above all, it should be kept in mind that this stock is purely experimental and is far from any final stage of perfection.

Those who purchase daughters of these queens should watch them closely and be in a position to report what happens. Some of the characteristics to look for are:

1. Resistance to disease, or to note whether any contract A. F. B. or E. F. B.
2. How they compare in honey production with other colonies.
3. How they go through the winter.
4. Whether they are gentle or irritable.
5. Any other points that may be of interest to each beekeeper.

ANNUAL REPORT CONTINUED

The following is a continuation of

the report of the annual winter meeting at Harrisburg:

TEN YEARS OF 4-H BEE CLUB WORK IN FOREST COUNTY

By Russell M. Smith, County Agent

With an average of 97.7 pounds per colony for the past 10 years, Forest County 4-H Bee Club members have produced 23,170 pounds of honey, which amounts to \$3,475.50, if valued at 15 cents per pound.

Junior Bee Club work started in 1931 with an enrollment of 7 boys under the leadership of Orion Allio, assistant cashier of a Tionesta Bank.

What a noisy time the boys had when assembling their hives on the floor of the Agricultural Extension Association office in the Court House early in April of that year.

About the twentieth of April, Ed-

KNIGHT'S

Leather Colored

Italian Queens

The Best Honey - Gatherers

Prices: 50c each; 25 or more, 45c each

All queens guaranteed mated pure. No charge for clipping.

Jasper Knight, Hayneville, Alabama

win J. Anderson, extension apiarist, helped introduce the two-pound packages of bees, and then gave assistance on management throughout the season.

The seven 4-H colonies averaged 84 pounds honey the first year to make a profit of \$15.80 per hive.

Reports of the results, and enthusiasm of the new Bee Club members spread to the other end of the county. Consequently, a second Club was organized in 1932 to make a total enrollment of 18 boys in the county Bee Clubs.

The first girl was enrolled in 1933. The number of girls doubled for two years, and gradually increased to a membership of 12 girls in 1939 and 1940. During each of the last two years, 13 boys were enrolled, making an annual enrollment of 25 members.

In 1937, the 4-H Bee Clubs were reorganized on a county-wide basis, with Frank Watson, county superintendent of schools, as Club Leader.

Although some of the members must travel 30 or more miles to meetings, the average attendance for 12 meetings in 1939 was 41 persons. Last year was the first that the Club carried on meetings throughout the winter.

At the Forest County Fair in October 1940, 26 of the 28 exhibits of honey were displayed by 4-H Bee Club members. At the round-up a week later the boys and girls displayed 64 exhibits, or 384 pounds of honey. According to E. J. Anderson, this was the largest round-up in the State during the season.

At the November meeting, specialist Anderson gave a talk on the value and composition of honey, using jars containing the exact weight and volume

of the various ingredients in a pound of honey. This was followed by a demonstration on the uses of honey put on by Miss Ida J. Peebles, county home economics worker. With the help of one of the Bee Club girls she made honey sandwiches, and furnished honey nut brownies, and a honey cake which she had made several days before the meeting. Needless to say, members and their parents greatly enjoyed sampling these products.

There is a possibility that Beekeepers' Associations might make greater use of their county home economics workers to demonstrate some of the many uses of honey.

The December meeting was a Christmas party held at the home of Club Leader Watson. A discussion on table manners, and party etiquette was participated in by all the members present at this meeting.

Coasting was the recreational feature of the January meeting. Simple introductions, and other courtesies were demonstrated by several members.

A patriotic program in honor of Abraham Lincoln and George Washington has been planned for February.

How about looking at some of the achievement records of this Club? First let's take the hive originally owned by Herman Motzer and follow it through for a period of ten years. On account of queen failure, Herman's colony produced no surplus honey the first year, but came through with 210 pounds the second year. Two years of average production followed. However, in 1936 this colony set an unbeaten state record for a 4-H colony of 304 pounds honey, consisting of 49 pounds of comb and 265 pounds of extracted honey. The net profit on this production was \$41.35.

PRICES FOR CHOICE BRIGHT ITALIAN QUEENS

65 cents each, \$7.00 per doz., \$50.00 per hundred.

EMIL W. GUTEKUNST

COLDEN, New York

Herman's younger brother, William, then took over the colony, and it continued to produce well until 1940, when it made another exceptional yield—248 pounds honey with a profit of \$34.07. Extension apiarist Anderson reports this to be the highest yield for a 4-H Club colony in 1940.

The average production per 4-H colony in Forest County during 1940 was 96.9 pounds honey, and the average profit was \$11.30 per hive.

Important points in the management of 4-H colonies include introduction of package bees in mid-April, adequate feeding of sugar syrup, clipping of queens' wings, using a shallow frame super on each hive to encourage bees to start work in supers, providing shade and extra ventilation, weekly examination for queen cells and colony needs, and requeening every fall.

Concerning requeening, here is what one member wrote in her record book:

"Requeening season came on and I committed my first murder. Looking sympathetically upon the old queen, I waved good-bye and sadly crushed her beneath my foot. A younger and more alert queen took her place."

Thirteen Forest County Bee Club members entered 26 exhibits of honey in the 4-H classes at the 1941 Pennsylvania Farm Show. These entries won a total of \$46.00 in cash prizes, besides ribbons, for twelve members of the Club.

To summarize, 4-H Beekeeping in Forest county has:

1. Increased local consumption of honey, particularly extracted honey.
2. Utilized a little more of the vast resources of nectar and pollen that otherwise would have gone to waste.
3. Created among local people a greater interest in beekeeping.
4. Helped to clean county apiaries

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When Good Queens Will Pay More

I ship pure Three Band Italian Queens every month of the year. All are fully **Guaranteed.**

Price to 35c—3 for \$1.00

D. W. HOWELL

Shellman,

Georgia

of American foulbrood through co-operation of state inspectors, and through educational disease control demonstrations among adult and junior beekeepers.

5. Helped to advertise indirectly the recreational and material resources of Forest county through 4-H Bee club publicity in newspapers, magazines, radio broadcasts, and at beekeepers' meetings, such as the annual meeting of the State Beekeepers' Association.

A FEW WORDS WERE GIVEN BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE BEE SUPPLY COMPANIES

Mr. D. C. Babcock, of the A. I. Root Co., Medina, Ohio, said:

"It is a pleasure to come over here to meet faces and renew old acquaintances. I believe that I have been coming over here for about twenty years. I have seen some come and some go and watched with interest the development of your association.

"At our home office, we have a system of symbols. My symbol is X—an unknown quantity. It is my job to watch prices. My greatest worry today is the price you beekeepers are getting for your honey. I know there is something wrong when some of the large producers, especially those that run

from 300 to 500 colonies, commence to complain, 'We can not get very much for our honey'. These beekeepers meet some difficulties in selling, then cut prices. The result is an insignificant return for the season's work.

"I hope that something can be done so the beekeepers see the light and refuse to cut prices.

"In closing let me extend to you an invitation to come to Medina, Ohio. We will try to show you a good time and make you feel at home."

Mr. Gravely, Representing the A. I. Root Co., said:

"I took a trip along the east coast to Massachusetts last summer and, while traveling, inquired about the price of honey. The retailers told me that some ordinary honey was selling as low as \$.38 and \$.42 for a five-pound pail. I understand that one of these packers boasted that no matter at what price anyone else sold honey, he could sell it cheaper. The beekeepers sell the honey to this packer and must make a living out of the returns.

"It seems that something ought to be done to get around this situation. Local associations should go on record against unfair competition. I think some one should start the ball rolling.

"The beekeepers of New Jersey have the same trouble. They do not produce

enough honey and must ship considerable in to take care of their market. There is no reason why outsiders should ship honey into this or any market and spoil the price for the local producer. It seems to me that something can be done to relieve this situation. I should like to see this Association go on record against the practice of cutting prices."

RECREATION OF THE BEEKEEPER

By H. B. Sellers, Drexel Hill, Pa.

When I joined the Association, I said that if I could not bring my Christianity along, I wouldn't join. I am a Christian man and believe in living in a Christian manner.

My bees are the Italian variety. I have only two colonies. That is enough for me. I would rather have two colonies well cared for than one hundred colonies neglected. I find the bees very interesting and each time I go out to look at them I find something new. One day, I noticed a bumble bee. It kept away from the mass of bees but when it saw one bee alone, it dashed after this bee. What the bumble bee accomplished in this way, I do not know. (The insect observed by Mr. Sellers was not a bumble bee but a robber fly trying to catch a bee. The robber fly feeds on other insects. This particular one looks very much like a bumble bee—Ed.)

I take special interest in the wel-

fare of all my bees. A jar of water is kept on the top of one hive. When I find a bee that looks dead I drop it into the water. The water seems to revive it and give it new life.

Bees are enjoyable since you can work with them yourself. The only way to learn about bees is to read about them and observe them. One can learn much about them from other beekeepers. Most beekeepers listen to the many ways of keeping bees. When they are through listening, they go home and do exactly what they please about their own. They get a lot of satisfaction out of keeping bees in this way.

Modern equipment is important. I believe in keeping good equipment. If you will observe the equipment of other beekeepers, you will see that some of it is in good condition, some needs paint, and some needs improving in other ways. I believe that we would produce a finer quality of honey if our equipment was kept in first class condition. Equipment can be cleaned and repaired during the winter months. It is then ready when the rush comes in spring.

The important thing is to get something done. We often talk much about bees but do little to improve them.

I believe that beekeepers are a fine bunch of human beings. I think it is their association with bees that make beekeepers such good fellows. I go from one beekeeper to another asking questions. They give me answers and then

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION BLANK

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Signed

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I go home and try out their suggestions. Some of the new thoughts prove to be of real value, some are not so good but it all helps to improve our knowledge of the subject.

We should visit other beekeepers and try to build up the number of our acquaintances. I find that personal contact is the best way to get a beekeeper into the association. By visiting, I think we can be of greater help to one another, one beekeeper may have some honey to sell and another need honey. There is no better way to learn the needs of each other than at the meetings of the associations. Get your neighbor beekeeper interested in the Association. Tell him of the great advantages of being a member and ask him to come to the next meeting with you. Your effort in this direction will help both the beekeeper and the Association.

I guess some wonder how our county association could afford to buy the moving machine and the reel. I think it was by an auction that we raised the money. We are glad to show the reel to public schools, churches, and other places. We have in this way an opportunity to benefit the beekeeping

industry by interesting people in bees and honey.

Lets get more beekeepers for our Association. God bless you until we meet again.

CARE OF COMB HONEY

By Edwin J. Anderson

The production of fancy comb honey is an art, which is in danger of being lost by the beekeepers of this country. Years ago most every beekeeper produced comb honey and nothing else. Now there are many, who produce no comb honey at all. If this trend continues, the art of producing comb honey will be something to read about in bee books. Such a condition would be regrettable since comb honey has a delicate flavor that can not be duplicated in extracted honey. The comb itself is one of nature's finest products.

When a colony is forced to produce comb honey, the desire to swarm is increased so that the beekeeper must fight harder to reduce this natural tendency of the bees. It is essential to fight the desire to swarm since it is only strong colonies that produce fancy comb honey. After a colony has swarmed it is too weak to work efficiently in

supers. The swarm itself fills the brood chamber first then goes into the supers. If the honey flow is short or the beekeeper is slow to provide supers, the flow may be over before the bees can make much surplus. A small swarm will not do much in the supers anyway.

The first step in producing fancy comb honey is then to develop a strong colony. The second is to keep this colony at work. When bees get busy building queen cells and hang around the hive to swarm, they are not going to accomplish much in comb supers. A few suggestions that might be used to encourage the bees to work harder might be listed. They are:

- 1—Have all good worker combs in the brood chamber;
- 2—Head the colony with a young queen of select stock;
- 3—Provide plenty of super space. A strong colony can fill two supers as rapidly as they can fill one when the honey flow is heavy;
- 4—Shade the top of the hive during June, July and August;
- 5—Give the bees an abundance of

ventilation at the bottom of the hive during the swarming season;

6—Place the empty comb super above the one partly filled;

7—Remove the queen cells every seven days.

When the sections are finally filled and sealed, the beekeeper is confronted with a new set of problems. It is then up to him to get the sections to market in first class condition. This is indeed a problem since there are innumerable ways by which the appearance of fancy comb honey may be ruined. This happens after the bees have done an excellent piece of work. The types of damage are:

- 1—If the sections are left with the bees too long, they are smeared with propolis and made to look dirty;
- 2—The bees may remove honey from the sections after the flow is over and leave the section with many empty cells;
- 3—If the honey is removed with smoke, the bees will chew holes through the cappings or the honey may absorb the flavor of smoke;

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4—If carbolic acid is used to remove the honey, it may take on a slight amount of the acid flavor;

5—If comb honey is stored in a damp place it will draw moisture and sour;

6—If not carefully handled, many sections may be broken;

7—If sections are squeezed too hard when cleaned, honey will ooze out of the cells and run down the comb;

8—Ants and mice may damage the sections;

9—Robber bees will steal honey and ruin sections whenever possible;

10—The wax moth causes a heavy annual loss of fancy comb honey;

11—Dust and dirt soon darken honey that is not covered;

12—Crystalization is a serious problem with certain kinds of honey or with most kinds of honey if they are to be kept for a long period of time.

When one reviews this long list of

possible causes of damage, one must wonder that any gets to the market in the best of condition. It is very evident that to keep comb honey intact is an exacting piece of work.

Comb honey should be removed from the bees as soon as it is entirely sealed. The bee escape is still the most satisfactory gadget used to separate the bees from the fruits of their labor. Honey should not, however, remain above a bee escape for more than two days since it may take on moisture formed as a result of condensation. When a bee escape is used, there should be no cracks around the super or robber bees will give a good accounting of themselves. A second inner cover or a piece of card board should be placed above the super to make sure all openings are closed. It is best to remove the honey early the next day after the escape was placed below.

Wax moths may crawl into the super soon after it was placed above the es-

cape or they may lay eggs on the combs any time after they are removed from the hive. For this reason, the combs should be fumigated in a week or ten days after they are removed from the hive. The honey should then be cleaned and wrapped in cellophane.

Paper shipping cases are available for the storage of comb honey. They contain 24 separate spaces for sections. A case of this type is ideal for storing comb honey, since it protects the honey against damage and prevents sudden changes of temperature, which encourage crystalization. When honey is cleaned, wrapped and stored in a paper case it is ready for market on a moments notice.

It is indeed a source of great satisfaction to produce fancy comb honey and be able to deliver it to a customer while still in perfect condition.

A discussion on the merits of the

proposed legislation for increasing the amount of apiary inspection was the last item of business.

A motion was made, seconded and passed that the group adjourn until the same time next year.

A radio broadcast will be given by Edwin J. Anderson over WCAU of Philadelphia at about 12 noon, on Saturday, September 13th. The subject, unless changed, will be, "Honey".

A WORD ABOUT THE INSPECTION SITUATION

By W. Robbins, Jr.

I have been asked to voice my opinion on the progress of the committee appointed to try, if possible, to improve conditions for the beekeepers with the aid of the State Legislature. Because I am for any move that

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would mean the reduction of the horribly high percentage of contaminated colonies in the State, I naturally favor any move or moves this committee might make.

I deem it my privilege however to clarify the minds of a few beekeepers as to my original stand. We do things at times that might appear to some as if we were trying to place a wreath of laurels on our heads. You may rest assured that no individual or group had any intention of doing such when talk was started in favor of an appropriation bill.

In view of the fact that I have disposed of my bees and equipment, I can now voice my opinion, and feel that I am doing so in an unbiased attitude. Mention should here be made that, when I start in the honey business again, it will be after bee diseases in this State have been reduced to less than two percent.

At our Harrisburg meeting in Jan-

uary, I became cognizant of the fact that a change had been made in the original resolution as is recorded on the minutes of the Luzerne County Association. The resolution recorded there, is, for a committee of the State Association to draw up a bill to be presented to the State Legislature to obtain a substantial appropriation to carry on a more rigid apiary inspection program. A representative committee was duly appointed but, lo and behold, the whole basic idea was changed to an amendment or revision of our present Bee Laws. This would of course work well in any State providing they had a flexible budget in the separate departments. This last statement is made only to bring before you actual facts, and not to relieve the Dept. of Agriculture of their inherited duty, or the cleaning up of the disease that is eating the foundation out of the honey industry.

Getting back to the committee and

my support of same, we put the proverbial cart before the horse.

When the Hon. John Light gave his address of welcome at the Harrisburg meeting, he assured those present that he would give his full support to any cause or plan we had in mind. He also advised that we must organize and do so in order to get what we felt we were deserving of. A meeting was arranged with the Secretary by our very able and efficient President, Elmer Ruestle, to learn, if possible, just what we could do with the proposed amendment that had been drawn up. This trip to the Capitol and the time involved to make it could have been saved if I had expressed my feelings before leaving the Farm Show buildings. I knew what his answers to our questions would be and just how much cooperation we would receive. In any organized group one can find an active member who seems to glory in opposing any movement that would be beneficial to the majority. We are no ex-

ception to this rule.

There can be no change made in the State program for the next two years but this is no reason for lowering the flag and slipping back into our easy chairs. Right now is the time to start working on a bill to obtain an appropriation to carry on this much-needed program.

I have learned that some of the bordering States are alarmed to the extent that they are asking their deputy inspectors to clean up the areas even if they are in Penna. They are advising their beekeepers to establish apiaries as far away from the borders as possible. What a condition!

As an individual, I have expressed my mind to you for we are living in a Country that gives us the freedom of speech and press and the right to pursue any course we deem necessary for our well being. I favor, and shall continue to do so, any legislation that means better beekeeping in Pennsyl-

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vania. I do not favor the interference of persons, who would object to the cleaning up of the mess we have inherited because of past slipshod inspection programs.

CENTER COUNTY NOTES

By Abram Houser, Sec.

The condition of bees throughout Center County is very good at the present time. During the fruit bloom they built up rapidly. We had previously a lot of cold, dry, frosty weather, that held the bees at a standstill for a long time. Colonies had to be fed during this period. Package bees, installed the middle of April, took the lead over the over-winter colonies. About the 20th of June, the weatherman started in to be good. By the 1st of July, most of the colonies had filled two shallow extracting supers.

Last March 28th, we had our annual Bee Banquet at the Penn Belle Hotel,

Bellefonte. Officers elected were: President, Henry Illingsworth, State College, Pa.; 1st Vice-President, S. B. Rumberger; Sec. Vice-President, J. R. Hartle; Secretary and Treasurer, A. R. Houser.

On July 31st, the Clearfield and Center County Bee Keepers will hold their annual picnic, at Mr. and Mrs. Paul Stephens', Pine Grove Mills, Route 45. This will be held rain or shine. We have ample shelter.

LEHIGH COUNTY NOTES

By Mrs. H. W. Dennis

On the evening of March 12, a representative group of beekeepers and interested friends assembled in West Hall, Muhlenberg College to observe the 20th Anniversary of The Lehigh Valley Beekeepers Association.

It was gratifying to note about one hundred persons present in spite of the unfavorable weather. Roads were

drifted and the highways covered with ice in many sections.

The affair was opened with a few introductory remarks by our president, Prof. E. B. Everitt, Muhlenberg College.

Our first speaker was Prof. E. J. Anderson, who told us of his hobbies in beekeeping as a beginner.

Mr. Anderson also showed pictures of the 1941 Farm Show honey displays as well as other interesting pictures of bees and their habits.

The next speaker, introduced by Mr. Everitt, was Dr. E. F. Phillips, Cornell University, who is internationally known as an authority on bees, honey and wax (we would like to state from A to Z).

Dr. Phillips spoke to an attentive audience, who were benefited by his educational talk and valuable information to the beekeepers.

An open forum was held and Dr. Phillips generously answered many questions.

Dr. John V. Shankweiler showed colored pictures of flowers and flowering trees on the Muhlenberg campus and freely answered questions on photography.

A brief history of the Association was read by our Vice-Pres., Thomas A. Berkey of Easton, Pa., R. 3, who also made a real speech presenting Mr. Dennis and myself with two wonderfully fine chairs in behalf of the Association. It was a complete surprise and for loss of words the acceptance was brief but meant with all sincerity. We are grateful to the friends who brought "greetings" and who ventured to come from such distances as New Jersey, Philadelphia, Mt. Airy, Lancaster, Harrisburg and the surrounding towns, as well as our own town friends, to help make our 20th Anniversary a success. Refreshments were served after the close of the program and a social period followed.

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We carry large stocks and our Bee Supply Department is in charge of a Bee Expert.

We are distributors, therefore are in position to give factory prices to Bee Keepers, Associations and Dealers. Write for a ROOT BEE CATALOGUE if you do not have a copy. And if you have a garden or farm ask also for a copy of our Seed Catalogue—both are free.

Walter S. Schell, Inc.
Quality Seeds

Tenth and Market Sts.

HARRISBURG, PA.

CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA'S LARGEST SEED STORE

Pettit's Package Bees and Queens

Prof. Anderson says I have been advertising in this magazine for ten years. It must be so.

Judging by the nice business and good letters, we have many friends amongst your readers. Our best friends are satisfied customers, and we are not satisfied until you are.

We have done our best to give streamlined service in Package Bees, Booster Bees, and Queen Bees. Correspondence and constructive criticism always welcome.

Here is how you can help us to improve the service. When you know you are going to need bees to make new colonies or build up weak ones for the fruit bloom, ORDER EARLY, and reserve desirable shipping dates. Others do.

Arrival of the bees a week ahead of the bloom is good practice. It hurts us as it disappoints you to have your order come in after the dates you must have are all filled in our calendar.

Morley Pettit : Tifton, Georgia

The 12th of March was also the birthday of one of our loyal members, Floyd H. Sandt, Easton, Pa., R. 2 and "us Beekeepers" wouldn't think of leaving the event go by unnoticed. In his honor, a dinner was enjoyed at 6 p. m. at the Dutch Grille, Hamilton and Fountain Streets, Allentown. A birthday cake, well lighted candles, was presented to Mr. Sandt as a reminder. Those present were Dr. E. F. Phillips, Prof. E. A. Anderson, Prof. E. B. Everitt and Mrs. Everitt, Mr. and Mrs. Sandt, Mr. and Mrs. Trainer, Junior Trainer, Mr. and Mrs. Dennis.

LYCOMING COUNTY NOTES

By J. A. Naval

The Lycoming County Beekeepers Association is starting on its second year. One year ago last June, we organized with thirteen members. We now have twenty-one members. I believe we are the last county in the state to organize.

May 15, 1941, was the date of our first annual banquet. It was held at the Heshbon Church where a baked ham dinner was served. A short business meeting and election of officers followed the dinner. J. A. Naval was reelected President, J. Harold Shaffer, Vice-President and Leon T. Wheeland, Secretary-Treasurer.

Robert H. Rumler, County Farm Agent gave an interesting talk about the Association.

Prof. E. J. Anderson, State Apiarist, discussed seasoned management and showed four reels of moving pictures on the life of the bee.

Elton Tate, assistant county farm agent, and Mr. Anderson spent the day inspecting the County 4-H Bee Club Bees. On July 7, 1941, twenty-two members and parents of the County 4-H Bee Club met in the evening at the home of Robert Drick to participate in an extracting bee. Each member brought along one super of honey that was extracted and run into containers.

We have enjoyed the heaviest clover flow in years in Lycoming County. The honey has exceptionally fine flavor and color. This new crop of honey, both comb and extract, is selling very good at a fair price.

Very little basswood honey was obtained, a late frost injuring the buds. The bees are making up the difference on the smooth bark sumac. Red raspberry and wild blackberry produced a larger surplus than usual.

Mr. E. G. Cornwell, Apiary Inspector, is doing a fine job cleaning up A. F. B. in our county.

Our annual field day picnic was held at Mountain Beach Park Saturday afternoon and evening, July 26.

TIOGA COUNTY NOTES

By Walter Doud

When bees were unpacked they were light in stores and colonies were weak.

The weather was not favorable for them to build up fast and as clover began blossoming early, they were not in shape to take full advantage at the beginning. There was the heaviest clover bloom I ever saw in Tioga County, but weather was not right much of the time it was in bloom. A colony on scales gained 15 lbs. for its best day but many days when clover was in full bloom it gained very little or nothing. However we have a fair crop of honey. The flow is nearly over. Some comb honey, that has been taken off, is very light in color and has good body so I expect the extracted will be of good quality also.

Buckwheat acreage is large this year, and as clover will soon be ready to extract and basswood will not blossom, some buckwheat is already up and should start yielding early. We look forward to a good flow if we get rain but it is very dry now.

REVIEW OF THE SEASON

By Edwin J. Anderson

We have passed through a very successful season with clover producing an excellent surplus of light colored and fine flavored honey. This fine crop came as a pleasant surprise after several short crops, which made it seem as though clover honey was a vanishing quantity in this state.

Most flowers, with the exception of tulip poplar, have produced a surplus of nectar. Even the maples yielded an abundance of nectar that was gathered

in small surplus quantities by a few strong colonies.

Comb honey is of extra fine quality, a fairly large percent of the crop will grade fancy or No. 1.

The flow from devils club, buckwheat, marigold, goldenrod, wild aster, and silver rod, is still to be gathered. We can but guess what they will produce. Soil conditions are excellent at the present time. The weather will be the deciding factor.

The question of increasing prices to where honey will be in line with other products has appeared occasionally at the beekeepers meetings. It is a little early to judge what the market will be this fall. There are a number of conditions, which must be considered, before a decision is made.

Those factors which favor an increase are:

1—Increases in prices of other products;

2—A smaller production of small fruits and berries;

3—Increased demand locally for honey in recent years;

4—Increased buying power on the part of the public.

Those against an increase are:

1—A large local crop;

2—A fairly large crop of peaches and apples;

3—Loss of foreign markets.

The price trends of large quantities in the wholesale should be watched and a decision based largely on these trends. There certainly will be no excuse for selling honey at ruinously

"SHE-SUITS-ME" QUEENS

Latham's queens, line-bred for 26 years from Robey stock are second to none. Prolific, easy to handle, and active fielders, they satisfy.

One Queen 75c, 3 Queens \$2. Stamps accepted for single queen.

ALLEN LATHAM

Norwichtown, Conn.

FLOYD H. SANDT

—Dealer In—

LEWIS QUALITY BEE SUPPLIES AND
DADANT'S WIRED FOUNDATION

R. D. 2 24 Hour Service EASTON, PA.

Lewis
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HONEY JARS

A complete line of styles and sizes of containers particularly adapted to honey.



REPRESENTATIVES IN PRINCIPAL CITIES

OWENS-ILLINOIS GLASS CO.—Toledo

low prices.

It might be well to plan to save some of this year's fine honey to use in blending another year when the crop may not be as plentiful or of such fine quality as it is this year. There are many years when a small carryover of light honey would be a benefit to the marketing program in this state.

This will be an excellent year to develop an advertising program and increase the local demand for our product.

A few reports are coming in of increased retail prices. In one chain store, comb honey is selling for \$.23 where it sold for \$.18 last year.

LUZERNE COUNTY NOTES

June 21, 1941, the beekeepers of Luzerne County met at the apiary of Mr. Dagostin in Conyngham. A large part of this meeting consisted of members of the newly organized 4-H club of beekeepers. Mr. Anderson lectured on seasonal topics, etc.

The 4-H club was lately organized and it has grown rapidly in numbers and in interest. The interests of its members is centered not only in the bees, but in the organization. This interest has been well shown in the active interest each has taken in the meetings that have been held.

A number of our beekeepers are

planning to attend the State Beekeepers Association picnic at Gieman's Park, north of Gettysburg, Pa. It is hoped that the picnic will be one of the best that the Association has held. From what I know of the plans already I believe all that is necessary any more is the attendance to make it a perfect picnic. Besides it is a very nice park, and it is very conveniently located, about half way between Biglerville and Gettysburg on route 34.

As for beekeeping conditions in our county, it seems to be a little above normal. The clover flow has been very good. But it seems that in some places where the clover has stopped, the bees are turning to honey-dew sources. We hope this will not last very long. Swarming in our county seems to be below the average for the state at present. The local markets are normal and the surplus of honey from last year is light.

Leonard E. Good
Sec. Luzerne County Beekeepers Association

BRADFORD COUNTY NOTES

By Harry W. Beaver

Our notes this issue will of necessity be short. Not having as much help as usual we had to adopt short cut methods. It seems that Uncle Sam thought he needed help more than I, so I concluded to do what one man part time and myself full time could

do and let the rest go undone. There is a saying that the Lord helps them who help themselves, so He sent a good heavy frost while the apples and peaches were in bloom and froze the crop, and relieved me of the work and worry of caring and harvesting the same. We gave the bees one examination after unpacking to ascertain condition of queens etc. After that we simply tilted the upper half of the brood chamber back to see if swarming cells were started, if so we divided the colony, if not we added a super or two. In this way we made up the winter loss, and got by without handling but very few frames, and most yards did not swarm over 5% but we added supers just a little faster than needed. This was a season that would fool the best of us. June came in very dry and clover consequently began to bloom two weeks ahead of usual time and just as it looked like the honey crop would be a failure rain came and showers

occasionally kept clover coming also yielding honey till we had used all our supers and, well no they did not fill them all, but did put some honey in the last that were given them. Just now we are working like beavers to get the clover honey off before buckwheat blooms. We, my son-in-law and self, manage to clean up an average of 3500 pounds of the nicest clover honey we have had since 1918 in a day, which includes bringing the filled supers home and returning them to the same yards again after being extracted. Also putting the honey into cans.

I notice that when a man gets past sixty it becomes necessary to cut down the length of the working day in order to keep up speed while at work. Here is where our extracting plant helps out in making work light and making extracting really enjoyable. Systematize your work and then finish your job.

Italian, Caucasian and Carniolan Queens

Reared in Separate Yards. Price \$.50 each for the rest of the season.

Ronald Kirk, Rockton, Penna.

Reynoldsville Hardware Company

446 Main Street, Reynoldsville, Pa.

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and
Containers

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QUALITY
BEE SUPPLIES

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Seven Counties

WE SPECIALIZE IN BEE SUPPLIES, QUEENS, PACK-
AGE BEES AND BEESWAX

ORDERS FILLED SAME DAY AS RECEIVED

HONEY JARS

MODERNISTIC STYLE IN 4 SIZES

Plain Round in 1/4 - 1/2 and 1 pint sizes

WRAPPERS, CARTONS AND CANS

Write for prices

Simeon B. Beiler, Intercourse, Pa.

Only Lewis Hives are Rot Proofed

All 10-frame Beeware bodies now ready for shipment have been rot-proofed—a new Lewis improvement that controls decay of all exposed wood parts and repels termites. This exclusive Lewis advantage is apiary tested and equivalent to two coats of paint as a wood preservative. One coat of oily paint is recommended to prevent checking of wood grain but this rot-proof treatment permeates the wood and makes hives last years longer. As fast as possible in 1941 all Beeware bottoms, wood covers, metal cover rims and super shells will be supplied rot proofed at no additional charge. New manufacturing facilities make this possible.

Every dovetail in every Beeware body, super or cover is ready bored for nailing as are all slotted bottom bars in Lewis frames. No charge is made for these exclusive Lewis features either. In addition you get the new metal frame rest which does not bend out of shape even after years of use. Some Lewis frames are lower in price than in 1940 as improvements made possible by new manufacturing facilities partly offset advances in lumber costs over last year. Be sure to ask for our 1941 Beeware catalog.

G. B. Lewis Company

Watertown, Wisconsin

Branches: Colonie & Montgomery Sts., Albany, New York.—1117 Jefferson St., Lynchburg, Virginia.—110 W. Main St., Springfield, Ohio.—214 Pearl St., Sioux City, Iowa.

Write to our office nearest to you.

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SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE
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THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE COLLEGE
STATE COLLEGE, PA.

THE PENNSYLVANIA BEEKEEPER



PUBLISHED BY DIRECTION OF THE ASSOCIATION

VOL. 16 NO. 3

OCTOBER, 1941

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All Lewis prices advanced effective September 8, 1941, due to increases in costs beyond our control. Your dealer has these new prices. Ask him for them. They apply only to December 31, 1941 and are subject to our ability to get materials.

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WALTER DOUD, Mansfield, Pa.

Advertising Manager

HARRY W. BEAVER, Troy, Pa.

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VICE-PRESIDENT Thomas A. Berkey, Easton, Pa.
SECRETARY-TREASURER H. M. Snavelly, Carlisle, Pa.

THE FARM SHOW AT HARRISBURG

There has been a fairly large crop of fine honey harvested in Pennsylvania this season. This favorable condition will undoubtedly be reflected in the size and quality of the exhibit at Harrisburg.

One additional county is planning to send a collective exhibit and there may be several new individual collective exhibits. A sizeable increase is also expected in the general classes.

Be sure to make reservations for collective entries before December 1st.

Electric outlets will be provided so that lights may be used with the collective exhibits. Honey becomes beautiful and attractive in appearance when brightened with light. Light passes through honey and makes the honey stand out from its surroundings. When light is used the display should be arranged so that all the light must pass through the honey. The light may enter the honey either from the bottom or the top of the bottles. If any light escapes between the bottles it detracts from the appearance of the honey. Moving objects also help to attract attention.

There should be some educational feature connected with each collective exhibit. Educational ideas help advertise honey and also make the exhibit

grade higher when judged. The following points are also considered by the judge: neatness, arrangement, variety and quality. To take first, an exhibit must be good in all these points.

Don't forget to mail your entry blank before December 1st, which is the time limit set for entries in both the individual or county collective classes. Some entries have not arrived on time in the past and have caused considerable confusion. December first is set as the time limit so that the space may be divided equally among the exhibitors. The size of the space is determined by the number of entries. The blanks should be filled out and sent to the Director of the Farm Show, Harrisburg, Pa.

There will be no charge for shipping exhibits to the Farm Show, providing they are sent through your local County Agent's office so they can arrive at Harrisburg before 6 P. M., Friday, Jan. 16, 1942.

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League, the New York State Beekeepers Association and the Ontario Beekeepers will have an official part in the program.

Many interesting subjects will be discussed including the heating and bottling of honey. Special reference and consideration will be given the subject of filtering honey.

The beekeepers of Pennsylvania will find the program well worth while if time can be found to attend.

A complete program will be published in the national bee journals.

—By E. J. A.

REPORT OF STATE PICNIC AND FIELD DAY

By H. M. Snavelly, Sec.

It was unfortunate that the original date, August 23, had to be postponed for the holding of the summer meeting. However, the picnic was held on October 4, and it turned out to be a very fine day. Naturally, the crowd was affected by the postponement and by the aftermath of the epidemic. There were approximately 150 people present. We had a splendid time and hope that those, who could not meet with us at the latter date, may arrange to come to the Farm Show meeting January 21 and 22.

Mr. M. T. Hartman, our congenial County Agent of Adams County, gave the address of welcome, which was

followed by a response from Mr. Everett, Allentown. Mr. Kirk appeared then and gave a very comprehensive report of the inspection work done in the state this year. Mr. Anderson demonstrated the wrapping of comb honey, and gave some timely hints on preparation and care of the same. Eighteen counties were represented. There were folks present from three different states.

During the lunch hour everyone had access to kegs of sweet cider, which was made the day before by E. H. Sachs. The cider was substituted for coffee and was supplemented by crisp pretzels.

After dinner, Mr. Light, Secretary of Agriculture, was the first speaker. He emphasized the fact that the most effective progress that can be made must come through strong organizations. He stressed the point of county organization, and the willingness of the department's cooperation.

Dr. Hambleton, in charge of bee culture, Washington, D. C., gave a helpful address on the work of research on foulbrood-resistant stock, and also on the necessity of pollen in the work of building up a colony.

Games and contests were in charge of Mr. Anderson. There were more than thirty prizes. Several winners turned over their awards to the fund, which is started by the Association for research at State College. The initial sum, which was given by a friend in

Philadelphia, is \$5.00 which was turned over by Mr. Reustle, President, sponsor of this suggestion.

SPECIAL NOTICE

The Farm Show Committee met in Harrisburg the evening of October 9th. Recommendations and suggestions were asked from the various farm organizations. Concerning the apiary products, it was requested that this special notice be given to the beekeepers in the state through the Pennsylvania Beekeeper: that it is important that the entries for collective, both county organizations and individuals, be mailed early enough so as to reach the Farm Show Office not later than December 1, 1941, if you wish to compete for prizes. Entries coming in late hamper the work of dividing the proper space for each exhibitor. We hope those, who are planning to exhibit, will be prompt in getting in their entry blanks. The blanks can be secured from the Farm Show Office or any County Agent.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The program is shaping up for the annual meeting at Harrisburg. We had hoped to be able to announce the speakers for the meeting, however, so far we can only announce one—Mr.

R. H. Keltz, of Michigan State College. The other one will be announced in the next issue of The Beekeeper. Hope that we will have a good attendance. Plan to attend the banquet Wednesday evening!

INCREASING THE COUNTY ASSOCIATIONS

A plan for increasing the number of county beekeepers associations in the state was presented at the State Meeting by our President, Mr. Reustle. The plan resolves itself largely into a program whereby the organized counties help those not organized. The organized counties are to help their neighbors by calling a meeting and providing a speaker for the first meeting. At this meeting, the speaker tells of the work of his association, what the values of an organization are, and then offers some suggestions for organizing the new association.

It is only through a strongly organized industry that progress can be made. There are many tasks ahead for a strongly organized beekeeping industry in this state. Some of the needs are a research department at the College, a voice in regard legislative matters which continue to crop up when least expected, lower rates for journals, memberships and increased inspection.

"SHE-SUITS-ME" QUEENS

Latham's queens, line-bred for 26 years from Robey stock are second to none. Prolific, easy to handle, and active fielders, they satisfy. One Queen 75c, 3 Queens \$2. Stamps accepted for single queen.

ALLEN LATHAM

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for

Seven Counties

WE SPECIALIZE IN BEE SUPPLIES, QUEENS, PACK-AGE BEES AND BEESWAX

ORDERS FILLED SAME DAY AS RECEIVED

Some of the suggestions are:
That the following counties help their neighbors as suggested below;

Counties now organized
York, Cumberland
Lancaster
Luzerne
Lackawanna
Lycoming, Center
Clearfield

Those to be organized
Dauphin, Franklin
Lebanon
Columbia
Wayne
Clinton
Elk

Those counties, not bordered by counties that are organized, will have to initiate their own program and organize their own association.

Some of these are:

Potter
Tioga
Elk
Clarion

Your extension Bee Specialist, E. J. Anderson, will be glad to give all possible assistance. Active beekeepers in the various counties must start the ball rolling and see that the first meeting has been arranged through your local county agent.

The following radio broadcast was presented over Station WCAU, Phila-

delphia, on the 24th of May by Edwin J. Anderson. This broadcast was written in the form of questions and answers, which is the form desired by that station.

Beekeeping in Pennsylvania

Shoffner—One doesn't see many colonies of bees while traveling about Pennsylvania. Is that an indication that beekeeping is a very small industry in this State?

Anderson—It is true that one doesn't see many bees but that is because bees are generally put in unused corners of the farm, where they will not sting the farm animals or the hired man. The beekeeping industry is, however, considerably larger than one might guess.

Shoffner—What is the size of the industry in Pennsylvania, Mr. Anderson?

Anderson—There are nearly 30,000 people keeping bees in this State. This group of beekeepers own over 175,000 colonies of bees.

Shoffner—Will you tell me what the annual production of honey is for the State?

Anderson—The beekeepers of Pennsylvania harvest approximately 4,500,000 pounds of honey each year and to this might be added 150,000 pounds of beeswax that is rendered from cappings and old combs. These

products together have a retail value of about \$720,000.

Shoffner—Do the beekeepers ship much of this honey out of the State?

Anderson—No, the total sales of honey in Pennsylvania are nearly twice the production. In other words, our beekeepers produce about 4,500,000 pounds of honey a year and the public consumes nearly 8,000,000 pounds. The difference must be shipped in from other states.

Shoffner—Bees are one of the few insects that benefit man. Are they of any value to other branches of farming?

Anderson—Bees benefit either directly or indirectly almost every type of farmer. They are of value to the fruit grower, the vegetable grower, the dairyman, and the general farmer.

Shoffner—I don't quite understand how the dairyman would be benefited by bees. Would you give us some idea as to how the bees benefit him?

Anderson—Most of our flowers depend upon insects to carry pollen from one blossom to another. Bees are very efficient as pollin-

ators and they not only pollinate the fruit blossoms to give the fruit grower a larger crop of fruit, but they also pollinate the blossoms of the white clover, sweet clover, and alsike clover and insure a heavier set of seed in these blossoms. The clovers are one of the principal sources of feed for the dairyman.

Shoffner—Don't you think the wild insects would be sufficiently abundant to pollinate the blossoms?

Anderson—No, the modern methods of cultivation destroy the breeding places of many of the wild insects and the large plantings of one variety of vegetables or fruit require an exceptionally large number of insects for pollination. There are millions of blossoms to be pollinated in a large planting of fruit. Bees are, in fact, of greater value to the farming industry as a whole for pollination than they are to the beekeeper for honey production.

Shoffner—It is now about the last of May. Can you give me some idea as to what the beekeeper should be doing?

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION BLANK

Enclosed find \$1.00 for one year's membership in the Pennsylvania Beekeepers Association. Including a year's subscription to the Pennsylvania Beekeeper.

Signed

HONEY JARS

A complete line of styles and sizes of containers particularly adapted to honey.



REPRESENTATIVES IN PRINCIPAL CITIES

OWENS-ILLINOIS GLASS CO.—Toledo

FLOYD H. SANDT

—Dealer In—

Lewis
BEEWARE

LEWIS QUALITY BEE SUPPLIES AND
DADANT'S WIRED FOUNDATION

R. D. 2 24 Hour Service EASTON, PA.

Anderson—May and June and July are the three months when the bees gather most of the surplus quantities of nectar from wild flowers. The beekeeper should be watching his bees closely to be sure they have plenty of super space for this nectar. May and June are the months when bees swarm and the beekeeper must take steps to prevent swarming.

Shoffner—How does a beekeeper know when the bees need more space?

Anderson—It is very important to provide the bees with more space than they can possibly fill. An additional super should be given each colony when the last one is only three-fourths full.

Shoffner—I don't quite understand the

importance of so much empty space. Can you tell me why it would not be all right to let the bees fill a super, then take it off and replace it with an empty one?

Anderson—Bees are very much like human beings. If they get the hive full and have nothing to do for a few days, they get into all kinds of mischief.

Shoffner—I just can't imagine what kind of mischief a bee might get into.

Anderson—When the bees get their hive full, they feel that their task is done and the working spirit of the colony wanes. In the first place, they build queen cells and make plans to swarm and leave for the woods. In the second place, once they quit working, they seem to prefer to loaf and it

is then difficult for the beekeeper to get them back to work again.

Shoffner—Can you tell me how much nectar a colony of bees might gather in a day?

Anderson—Yes, a single colony of bees has been known to gather as much as 20 pounds of nectar in one day. This means that under the most favorable conditions a colony will fill a super in about three days.

Shoffner—You indicate that swarming is not desirable. I should think that a beekeeper would like to get more swarms.

Anderson—It is only the very strong colonies that produce a large crop of honey. When a colony swarms, most of the working force goes away or is put into another hive, hence the old colony produces little surplus during the following two or

three months. The new colony must fill the hive body before it stores much surplus for the beekeeper. In either case, considerable time is lost and the crop reduced accordingly.

Shoffner—How would you stop a colony from swarming?

Anderson—Bees cannot swarm unless they have at least one queen cell from which to rear a young queen. The beekeeper should remove the queen cells every week and be careful that he does not miss any.

Shoffner—Is that all you have to do to prevent swarming?

Anderson—That is the most important thing. The colony should have in addition plenty of super space, plenty of ventilating space, and should have artificial shade during the hottest part of the day. If the hive is a comfortable place in

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which to live the bees will work harder and swarm less.

Shoffner—There is one thing that has not been quite clear to me. You speak of the bees gathering nectar rather than honey. Will you tell me the difference between the two?

Anderson—Nectar is the thin sweet solution secreted by the nectaries of the flowers. Nectar, as gathered by the bees, would soon sour and spoil. To prevent this from happening, the bees ripen and change the nectar, and make it into honey.

Shoffner—That sounds interesting. Can you tell me how they ripen the nectar?

Anderson—The bees scatter the thin drops of nectar about the hive, then fan cold air into the hive. The air is heated, which causes it to draw mois-

ture from the nectar. The bees continue this process for a week, at the end of this time the nectar contains only 17.5 per cent water. It is then honey.

Shoffner—I take it then that honey is thickened nectar.

Anderson—Honey is even more than that. It is changed chemically as well as physically. It has many properties that make it a superior food.

Shoffner—I guess you will have to explain further what you mean.

Anderson—Well, honey contains largely two natural sugars that are assimilated by the body without being digested. These sugars are dextrose and levulose. Honey contains also proteins and minerals, which have tissue-building properties.

Shoffner—Perhaps there are some other things that make honey a valuable food.

Anderson—Yes, honey will not sour or mold as long as it is kept dry and in the form it was made by the bees. Honey has the ability to destroy most types of bacteria within 72 hours.

Shoffner—That is interesting. Will you tell us how honey is able to destroy bacteria?

Anderson—Yes, honey has the ability to draw moisture from anything it touches, hence it draws moisture from bacteria and kills them as a desert kills most forms of animal life.

Shoffner—Honey should then be a safe food to eat.

Anderson—To be sure, honey is nature's only pure sweet. It

holds a similar place among sweets that vegetables or milk hold among other foods.

CRAWFORD COUNTY NOTES

By Myrton Gray, Pres.

Bees, that were properly cared for last fall, came through the winter about 95%.

Only about 50% of the bees of the county were ready for the clover flow. Clover was plentiful in most sections of the county. Colonies run for comb honey produced about a case each, which is good for this section of the state. There was a large acreage of buckwheat in some sections of the county, but the flow was not heavy. Even the strongest colonies did not produce a large crop. Goldenrod and wild aster were the best they have been for years. Good colonies averaged about 50 pounds from this source. Our

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best colonies averaged a comb super completely finished from the fruit bloom. They did this in a period of about four days. When everything is considered, we had a very good season.

One of our 100 colony beekeepers admitted having lost from 100 to 200 supers of fall honey. He did not put supers on his bees for the aster flow since he did not wish to spend money for supplies when he was not sure the supers would be filled. He knew that I was supering for goldenrod and aster but figured that I would have only a lot of unfinished supers. I had recollections of a few good falls when the bees did very well. A person can not get a surplus unless he gives the bees room in which to store the honey. By supering on top, one does not generally have more than one super per colony unfinished.

There is still plenty of A. F. B. in Crawford County. I spent the 3rd and 4th of July with the inspector. These were the only two days we had inspection. We made a number of fires during those two days.

Our county beekeepers, who know what it is all about, are getting \$3.60 to \$3.75 per case for fall honey and from \$4.00 to \$4.25 for clover. This is as it should be—in line with other food price advances. These prices will not mean any more to the beekeeper than \$3.00 and \$3.60 other years. Those selling their honey at the old prices are in reality taking around 3 or 4 cents a pound less than they got last

year. People expect to pay more at these times. There are always a few, who think they should buy honey at a lower price no matter how low the price may be.

Bees in this section are in good condition to go into winter. Most brood chambers contain plenty of honey and pollen. The last two days turned cold so we will have to remove all supers at once.

LANCASTER COUNTY NOTES

Roy H. Herr, Pres.

The 1941 beekeeping season will soon be history. For Lancaster county, it was unusual from several aspects. Conditions were favorable during the spring build-up period with practically no swarming. A little later, the clover began to suffer for want of moisture.

On June 4th, a meeting was held at my home with a good number in attendance. It was a rainy day and we supposed that this rain would revive the clover flow. This did not materialize, probably because the clover was too mature.

At this point, some of our beekeepers were guided by past experience and decided that our prospects for a 1941 honey crop were gone. These beekeepers were in for a surprise in August, when the bees began to jam the supers with light honey of good quality. It seems to have been one of those things which "never happened before."



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What the production average for the county will be, I do not know. Individual colony production of over 100 lbs. was not uncommon.

Our summer picnic was held at the Masonic Homes Orchards, Elizabethtown, Pa., on July 30th. About 75 persons were present including representation from six counties outside our own. We are always glad to welcome visiting beekeepers. The group assembled at the honey house for an address of welcome by the Homes Superintendent, responses from visiting beekeepers, a talk by Prof. E. J. Anderson on seasonal management and a queen numbering demonstration by our Sec.-Treas. D. L. Burkholder. Following this, we visited the large fruit packing plant and toured the orchards and apiaries enroute to the picnic grounds for games and refreshments. Due to the generosity of several of the supply houses and queen breeders, a sizeable list of premiums was awarded.

Our fall meeting was held on October 15 at the apiary of Mr. Norman Shreiner, Manheim, R. D., Pa.

Honey sales are considerably improved in this section. The improved labor and industrial conditions are responsible for this in no small degree. In my contacts with consumers, I find that folks are becoming more honey-minded. However, there are many, who need to be educated in the use and value of honey.

LYCOMING COUNTY NOTES

By J. A. Naval, President

A busy and profitable season for the beekeeper is nearly past. Nothing but praise can be said about the weather for the entire season for nectar and beekeeping although we need rain very badly now. There has been very few days that bees could not get out. Most of our rains have been at night.

The honey is excellent in quality and

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color. We have had a wonderful September flow of goldenrod, smartweed or knotweed and fall asters.

Well-kept colonies, where swarm control has been practiced, have produced a surplus of 150 to 200 pounds per colony.

In this part of the State buckwheat is scarce, not as much raised as farther north. We have many calls for buckwheat honey, both comb and extracted.

Colonies in this county seem to be strong and with plenty of winter store.

Honey has been selling very good. Foulbrood seems to be pretty well cleaned out in the county at present.

The fall meeting of our Beekeepers' Association will be held the latter part of November.

The County 4-H Bee, Potato and Capon Clubs will hold their annual Round-up November 6th at the Lycoming Hotel in Williamsport. The Round-up is sponsored by the Williamsport Kiwanis Club.

TIOGA COUNTY NOTES

By Walter A. Doud

Clover honey with us was one of the best crops we have ever had—both quantity and quality. Buckwheat honey crop was small, but with what came in from goldenrod, it made a fair amount. The flow from fall flowers was enough to keep queens laying so that colonies are strong in young bees and will start winter in best of shape. Robert Farrel, of Arnot, reports that his scale colony gained 15 lbs. one day from goldenrod.

The prolonged drouth has completely burned out clover in many pastures as well as clover seeding. Many wells are dry and streams are very low.

Honey is selling good and at a little better price than last year.

NOTES FROM THE SOUTHEAST

By Harry B. Pye

The honey flow of this season has

been good. Many of the beekeepers in this area took off a good crop of clover honey, both extracted and comb honey. The Fall flow, especially the marigold and the goldenrod, is exceedingly heavy. Many of the hives produced a surplus from 50 to 100 pounds.

As a whole, the bees are going into the winter with a good supply of food, and a large number of bees. Of course, the Defense Program has caused many of the beekeepers to neglect their bees due to the lack of spare time. In these cases, where the beekeeper failed to add the supers when needed, the swarms were heavy and colonies depleted.

The demand for honey has been rather brisk. Prices secured have been much higher than in previous years. There has been a little trouble securing the right types of containers, both glass and tin, by the beekeepers, but not to a serious extent.

The beekeepers, who attended our joint meeting and picnic in August at Doylestown, enjoyed a full day with interesting speakers and plenty of games and prizes awarded.

Bucks County has formed an organization and elected their officers. Credit should be given to the Delaware, Montgomery and Philadelphia Counties for their aid in making this association possible, not to mention the help of the County Agents and the work done by Professor Edwin Anderson.

A meeting was held at West Chester in September to encourage the forming of an association there. This was prompted by the fine work done by the various associations and the cooperation of the County in which the meeting took place. This West Chester meeting, held at Lenape Park, was well attended, and beekeepers from many of the counties were present. Professor Everett and Professor Anderson were amongst the speakers. Prizes were awarded for the various games and the picnic supper was enjoyed by all who attended.

Again much thanks should be given to the Delaware, Montgomery and Philadelphia Counties, and to the County Agents. Mr. Elmer Reustle, who is President of both the Pennsylvania Beekeepers and the Philadelphia Beekeepers, should be complimented for his effort and work in bringing around the results in forming associations in all the counties in the Southeastern section of this state.

REVIEW OF THE SEASON

By Edwin J. Anderson

The past has been a favorable season as the notes from the counties indicate. Nearly all major honey plants turned out a fair surplus. The surplus from any one flower has not been large enough, however, to rate as a bumper crop but the surplus from each flower, added to all the others, makes a total above the average. The

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surplus from the different flowers was somewhat spotted over the state which also tended to prevent a bumper crop. The quality of the honey is excellent as it generally is when gathered during a good flow.

There has been considerable late honey produced from the different varieties of wild aster. Some of this honey is in the form of comb honey. After comb honey must be sold quickly or it may crystalize in the comb and be of little value on the market. Unfortunately, aster honey does not have the finest flavor. Its flavor seems to be improved considerably, however, when it is extracted and creamed. The fine crystals in the creamed honey seem to soften the flavor and make the honey more pleasant to take.

Bees, on the whole, have considerable more honey in the brood chambers than they did last year at this time. Most of this honey is aster honey. There are, however, a large number of colonies that swarmed during September. These late swarms were unexpected. They left the old colonies weak and short of food so that some feeding is necessary. The late honey also has a tendency to crystallize solidly so that the bees can not move it readily during winter. Colonies sometimes starve during a long, cold spell because they can not bring the honey into the brood chamber rapidly enough. Late feeding helps to remedy this condition.

The general price trend is upwards and should be since bee supplies, bottles, and nearly all other products are higher in price. The beekeeper must get a higher price for his honey if he wishes to stay in business. The

price of beeswax has increased excessively. Too great an increase encourages the development of substitutes which may be detrimental to the beekeepers interests after the rush is over.

There have been a large number of successful meetings during the past season. The attendance at these meetings has been reduced somewhat because many side-line beekeepers are busy with defense work. The future looks good—for a few years at least.

BRADFORD COUNTY NOTES

By Harry W. Beaver

The season past has been unique in that the fine prospects for a crop last spring did not disappoint the beekeeper. We had the best crop of clover honey since 1918, and with honey selling at a small advance in price and selling actively, the goose hangs high and things look a lot more rosy than a year ago.

Beekeeping is of necessity a business of little things. Take for instance the bees themselves, then again the little loads of nectar they carry, and again the little scales of wax secreted to build the combs. And yet I have seen slipshod beekeepers let scraps of wax and old combs go to waste for the want of a little energy to gather them up and have a place to keep them till clean-up time in the fall. With wax at present prices this amounts to many dollars every year. Our buckwheat honey crop was rather poor in some yards and a bumper crop in others due, we have figured out, to showers at just the right time in streaks of our territory.

We have been watching the honey yield for years in our different apiaries and have concluded that there is more to a location than is apparent to the eye. For instance, we have yards that have never given as good yield as others that seemed to have about the same amount of flora, but different terrain. I also notice that unless there is sufficient clover or buckwheat within a mile of the yard there is no good yield of nectar at that yard, where a yard 2 miles away may get a bumper crop if the clover or buckwheat is handy by.

Stories of bees carrying surplus crops from a distance of six or eight miles is, (I was going to say bunk). We will finish up the extracting in the next few days and will begin to pack for winter soon thereafter. We do not like to pack too early, as the bees if too warm are apt to use more stores we think than if left till later.

Some are of the opinion that bees must have a flight soon after being packed in order to winter well but this too is a notion that is just a notion, as most of our bees that are packed late never know that they have been moved, hence do not fill up with honey.

THE THING MOST TO DO

It is not with pride that I write this article, but with a hope that I may help someone else who has this same complex. The thing I hate most to do is to finish up a job of work be the same large or small. In my work as an apiarist there are a great many small jobs, which I usually start with great enthusiasm, but as the work nears completion, my enthusiasm wanes till it is with the greatest difficulty that I can get myself to finish it to the very end,

and sometimes my desire to start something new, gets the right of way and then the old job gets laid aside for future reference, and thus several unfinished pieces of work accumulate, making it harder than ever to finish them up.

This obsession finally got so dominant that I would have so much unfinished work littered about, and work that should have been finished for my financial good that I would lose considerable money through this negligence. I finally took myself severely in hand and said, see here old fellow, you are lazy, face about, finish your work.

Since that time I compel myself to finish the work begun, to the last bit, and find that it was the unfinished work that cluttered up my shop, that worried me most and tired my mind. Now since emancipating myself from this unfinished work I not only get more work done better, but have time to go fishing besides. I still hate to finish a job just as much as ever, but experience is a hard teacher and the tuition comes high and her lessons are apt to be remembered.

The following is the second radio talk given over WCAU this summer. It was presented on Saturday, September 13, 1941:

UNDERSTANDING THE LANGUAGE OF THE BEES

Shoffner—I have heard it said that some people can work with bees without getting stung. Is that statement true?

Anderson—It is partly true. An old and skilled beekeeper learns the language of his bees so he can tell quickly when the bees are angry and when they



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are not. If he does not learn their language so he can keep them under control, he gets stung plenty.

Shoffner—That sounds very interesting. Can you describe some of the sounds that the bees use as signals?

Anderson—Before I answer that question, let me say that the bees gather and store a great wealth of food in the form of honey and pollen and were they not able to protect this food against robbers of various kinds, it would soon be stolen and the bees left to die.

Shoffner—I take it then that their language is largely made up of military terms.

Anderson—No, there are 50,000 or more bees in a hive. They have many tasks to perform and individuals must convey many thoughts to each other otherwise there would be nothing but confusion in such a large organization. However, it is the battle-cry that the beekeeper learns to recognize first.

Shoffner—How do you know when the bees are angry?

Anderson—When the bees are angry, they make a certain hum. The sound is started by the bees at the point where they are first disturbed and passes to the farther corners of the

hive. The bees also protrude their stings and on each sting may be seen a tiny drop of poison. The odor of this poison is also the signal to fight.

Shoffner—You say that the beekeeper has some way to prevent the bees from getting angry. Can you explain what it is?

Anderson—It is practically impossible to work with bees without the use of smoke. The beekeeper quiets the bees by blowing smoke into the entrance of the hive and over the bees when he lifts the top. The smoke frightens them as it would us. The bees immediately begin to fill their honey sacs and prepare to flee what they consider a home-on-fire. When they are frightened, a lower-pitched hum takes the place of the battle-cry.

Shoffner—Do the bees remain quiet after they have been smoked?

Anderson—No, if the smoke is not used often, the bees become reorganized and the guards again get ready to sting. The frightened hum leaves the hive and the battle-cry may again be heard.

Shoffner—Do the bees make any other sounds you recognize?

Anderson—Yes, one is the follow-the-leader signal, that is used

when they swarm. When the first few bees of a swarm enter a hollow tree, they face the inside and grasp the bark with all six legs and fan the air. They also emit an odor, that is blown into the air so the bees flying about may detect the odor and go in the direction indicated by those at the entrance.

Shoffner—That reminds me of sheep where the majority follow the leader. Can you tell us more about their language?

Anderson—The food-dance is very interesting to watch. It is a dance put on by the scouts, that have found an abundant supply of nectar and returned to the hive to tell the others.

Shoffner—I would never have thought that a bee has time to dance. Does this dance have some important meaning?

Anderson—The scouts go out early in the morning to search for flowers, that are secreting nectar. When these are found, the scouts gather a supply of the nectar and return to the hive. As soon as a scout gets inside the hive, it dances about in circles and shakes its body violently as it dances. It also buzzes its wings in its effort to attract the attention of the other bees.

Shoffner—This dance is evidently not a pleasure dance but one like those of the American Indian, an informative dance.

Anderson—The scouts wish to attract the attention of others so they can smell the odor of that particular kind of nectar,

then go out and gather more from the same flowers without loss of time.

Shoffner—Do the scouts have any other message to leave with the bees in the hive?

Anderson—Not that I know of, but I do know that some bees set about to arouse resting bees and encourage them to get to work. They do this soon after the scouts perform the food dance.

Shoffner—It would seem that even the busy bee must be aroused from her slumbers. Do the workers have any particular place in the hive where they rest?

Anderson—Field bees cluster in large masses during the night when they can not see to work. They cluster on the bottom or outside of the hive. Those that have the job of awakening their resting sisters, run over the clustered bees, stop here and there and shake the resting bees vigorously. They seem to say, "It's time to get to work, you loafer." The bees in the cluster soon leave for the fields.

Shoffner—Now, Mr. Anderson, queens are always of unusual interest. Do they use any sign language?

Anderson—The battle-cry of the queen is often heard and recognized by most of the older beekeepers. It may be heard as far as ten or fifteen feet from the hive.

Shoffner—I thought that only worker bees would sting. Now you

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tell me that queens also have a battle-cry.

Anderson—The queen never stings anything except a rival queen. It would therefore seem that her greatest enemy is another queen, and that she is ready to fight the moment a queen comes within reach.

Shoffner—I have always been told that a bee dies when it stings. Does a queen die when she stings a rival?

Anderson—The stinger of a queen is smooth so that it can be withdrawn after a victim is stung. The queen, therefore, does not die when she stings an enemy as does a worker, which has a barbed sting.

Shoffner—If there is only one queen in a hive, why is it that one queen must fight another?

Anderson—When bees wish to swarm, they build many queen cells, then the old queen flies away with the swarm before any of the young queens hatch. Only one of the many young queens in the cells survives to lay eggs.

Shoffner—Do the queens all hatch at one time and fight as did the gladiators of old?

Anderson—As soon as a queen is mature and ready to leave her cell, she gives off the battle-cry which is one long sound followed by several short ones. This cry resembles the squeaking of young mice. If another queen has hatched, she rushes to the cell, tears a hole in the side and kills the young queen before she can protect herself.

Shoffner—That seems very cruel. Do the queens ever fight each other?

Anderson—If two or more queens hatch at the same time, they fight each other until only one is left. As soon as a queen is stung, she becomes paralyzed

and is carried out of the hive. The surviving queen mates and becomes the mother of all the future members of the hive.

Shoffner—This arrangement certainly brings into force the law of survival of the fittest. Do the bees take any part in the struggles of the young queens?

Anderson—The bees step aside and let the queens fight their own battles. However, should a colony become entirely queenless, a strange sound may be heard coming from the unfortunate colony. It can be explained only by saying that it reminds one of several bees crying at the same time.

Shoffner—Does the sound have any special significance?

Anderson—The sound seems to be largely one of despair since there is but a remote possibility that a stray queen would hear the sound and enter the hive. Should the sound be heard by a well-trained beekeeper, however, he could take steps to requeen the colony and bring it back to normal.

Shoffner—It would certainly seem that truth is stranger than fiction. Mr. Anderson, are there any other sounds in the language of the bees that you recognize?

Anderson—I will describe but one more since our time is coming to a close. This sound might be called a cry for more heat. The bees keep a very definite temperature in the hive for rearing young bees. Should the temperature drop below the desired point, a number of bees hum at a certain pitch, then the others draw closer together and generate heat by means of physical activity.

LUZERNE COUNTY NOTES

By Robert Johnson

The condition of bees is good. You can see for yourself, as the scaled colony tells the story of the honey flow. The honey is light in color, of fine flavor. We have had few swarms. The records are as follows:

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| May 8 | 1½ lbs. |
| May 10, loss 1½ | 0 lbs. |
| May 18 | 2 lbs. |
| May 22 | 3 lbs. |
| May 27 | 2 lbs. |
| May 28 | 4½ lbs. |
| May 29 | 1½ lbs. |
| May 30 | 5 lbs. |
| May 31, cloudy | 3 lbs. |
| June 1, rain | 0 lbs. |
| June 2 | 4 lbs. |
| June 3 | 7 lbs. |
| June 4 and 5, rain | loss 4 lbs. |
| June 6, fair | gain 9 lbs. |
| June 7 " | 10 lbs. |
| June 8 " | 5 lbs. |
| June 9, windy | 2 lbs. |
| June 10, fair | 4 lbs. |
| June 11 | 4 lbs. |
| June 12, windy and rain | 0 lbs. |
| June 13, windy and rain | 0 lbs. |
| June 14 | gain 4 lbs. |
| June 15 | gain 3 lbs. |
| June 16, rain | gain 0 lbs. |
| June 17, fair | gain 8 lbs. |
| June 18 | gain 4 lbs. |
| June 19 | gain 9 lbs. |
| June 20 | gain 11 lbs. |
| June 21 | gain 9 lbs. |
| June 22 | gain 5 lbs. |
| June 23 and 24 | gain 8 lbs. |
| June 25 and 26 | gain 12 lbs. |
| June 27 and 28 | gain 10 lbs. |
| June 29 | gain 5 lbs. |
| June 30, July 1 | gain 3 lbs. |
| July 2 and 3 | 0 lbs. |

Total 161 lbs.

HELPS FOR THE BACK-LOT BEEKEEPER

By Walter A. Doud, Mansfield

I do feel that back-lot beekeeping, as

a subject, covers too much territory. As you know, we have some good beekeepers and we have some that should not keep bees at all. There isn't much that I can say to help you, who are professional beekeepers. There are a few important points, however, that I should like to review briefly.

One thing that beekeepers should do and many do not is to join the State Association. I think every beekeeper should have a genuine interest in his Association and should belong to both the County and State Association. The members of the various Associations have an opportunity to become acquainted with other beekeepers and learn the problems of the individual as well as the association. In this way they can work out a solution that will help the industry as a whole.

Another source of valuable information is the various publications that are printed especially for the beekeepers. The American Bee Journal and Gleanings in Bee Culture are two valuable publications. By getting these publications, you learn what is going on and new things that come up from time to time. We must read if we wish to get ahead.

Marketing is also very important. We sell honey to the storekeepers who know little or nothing about honey. If they were informed regarding its properties, they could get twice as much for their honey as they do today. Too often the clerk in a store is one who has never seen a bee hive and is one who doesn't know a thing about honey. As a result honey is the forgotten article. A little valuable information should be made available to them so they can talk intelligently about honey.

There isn't much more that I care to add, if something is done about the suggestions made, considerable will be accomplished for the industry.

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TIN CANS, SHIPPING CARTONS
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THE PENNSYLVANIA BEEKEEPER



PUBLISHED BY DIRECTION OF THE ASSOCIATION

VOL. 16 NO. 4

JANUARY, 1942

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VOL. 16 NO. 4

JANUARY, 1942

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12 W. 21st St.
New York City

MEDINA
OHIO

The Pennsylvania Beekeeper

Official Organ of the Pennsylvania State Beekeepers' Association, Published
Quarterly. Membership and Subscription Price inclusive \$1.00

PUBLISHING COMMITTEE

EDWIN J. ANDERSON, Editor, State College, Pa.

FREDERICK HAHMAN, Altoona, Pa.

WALTER DOUD, Mansfield, Pa.

Advertising Manager

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PRESIDENT Elmer F. Reustle, Philadelphia, Pa.

VICE-PRESIDENT Thomas A. Berkey, Easton, Pa.

SECRETARY-TREASURER H. M. Snively, Carlisle, Pa.

The following is the program of our Association for January. Considerable
interest is already manifest in this meeting and it is expected that a large
number will be present.

There will be two outstanding speakers, Dr. E. F. Phillips, of Cornell, and
Dr. W. E. Dunham of Ohio. Both of these men have had wide experience and
should make the meeting well worth while.

PROGRAM

PENNSYLVANIA STATE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

FARM SHOW BUILDING, HARRISBURG, Pa.

Room D, Main Show Building

JANUARY 21, 1942

WEDNESDAY MORNING, 9:30

Opening Remarks by the President Elmer F. Reustle, Philadelphia
Invocation

Address of Welcome Hon. John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture, Harrisburg
More and Better Beekeeping in Pennsylvania J. S. Fleck, Pittsburgh

Apiary Management Dr. W. E. Dunham, Extension Specialist in Apiculture,
Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.

Apiary Inspection in Pennsylvania.....H. B. Kirk, Senior Entomologist, Harrisburg

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, 1:30

Report of Secretary-Treasurer H. M. Snively, Carlisle

Election of Officers

President's Address Elmer F. Reustle

Package Bee Management W. E. Dunham

Straining Honey in the Honey House Dr. E. F. Phillips, Apiculturist,
Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.

Business Session

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Business Session

WEDNESDAY EVENING, 6:30

Beekeepers' Banquet—Turkey Dinner, Price \$.75
Sixth Street United Brethren Church
Sixth and Seneca Streets, Harrisburg
Toastmaster Jere Frazer, Springfield, Ohio
Musical Number and Grace for Dinner W. E. Dunham
Stray Straws
Composition and Properties of Honey—Edwin J. Anderson, Extension Apiarist,
State College
Beekeeping and Two Wars Dr. E. F. Phillips

JANUARY 22, 1942

THURSDAY MORNING, 9:30

Developing the County Program Prof. E. B. Everitt, Allentown
Report of National Meeting of American Honey Producers' League—John Con-
ner, Caldwell, N. J.
Reminiscence of Sixty Years Beekeeping Frederick Hahman, Altoona
Controlling Water Content of Honey Dr. E. F. Phillips
Roll Call of Counties
Greetings from Visitors and Supply Company Representatives

THURSDAY AFTERNOON, 1:30

Honey Selling Hints Edwin J. Anderson
Pestilences, Within and Without the Hive Paul S. Ziegler, Bethel
General Discussion and Summary Led by William S. Singer, Norristown
Report of Committees
Adjournment

A WORD ABOUT THE FARM SHOW MEETING

By H. M. Snively

The time will soon be here for the Annual Farm Show meeting. We are looking forward to having a big crowd again this year. Look over the program and decide now to attend all of the meetings, including the banquet Wednesday evening. Reservations can be made for the banquet by contacting Mr. E. J. Anderson, or the Secretary. Mr. Anderson will have charge of the tickets at the Farm Show.

A few years ago at the annual meeting we decided to organize a Ladies' Auxiliary to the Penna. State Beekeep-

ers' Assn. It was approved and passed, however, no method of procedure was acted upon. Perhaps our attention should be directed to this matter, so that you can think about it in the meantime; and that would put something into action. Perhaps the ladies would have something to bring to the meeting for consideration. Think it over.

For the past few years we have met with another problem: Usually the ap-
iary products judge comes here to judge the exhibits early enough so that the show can open Monday and our meet-
ings begin Wednesday morning. This makes it necessary for the judge to stay over with nothing to do much for

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nearly two days, if he is to speak at our annual meeting. Last year the judge had to leave before our meeting began, and so we did not have the privilege of his lectures. Perhaps something could be worked out to bridge this situation. This year the judge, Mr. Kelty, will have to leave early Wednesday night to get back to his classes for Thursday.

An effort is being made to get Mrs. Harriett M. Grace, Director of American Honey Institute, Madison, Wisconsin, to be present at our meeting. Her name does not as yet appear on the program, however, if arrangements can be worked out, and Mrs. Grace does come, she will have something of vital interest to all beekeepers, especially the ladies, and also those who want to expand the market for honey.

We'll be looking for you at the Show, January 21 and 22, 1942.

EXHIBITS FOR THE FARM SHOW

An effort will be made this year to have most of the judging done on Sunday so that this part of the work can be finished as early as possible on Monday. This arrangement should help to relieve the congestion that is very annoying on Monday afternoon and Tuesday when the crowd may become pretty heavy around the exhibits. For this reason all entry blanks and exhibits should arrive at Harrisburg by Friday evening, January 16th.

A few pointers might be listed again so that the newer exhibitors may

know what the judges look for when they judge the honey.

Extracted honey should be:

1. As clear as possible and free from crystals or cloudiness due to crystallized honey.
2. Clear on top and free from foam or any type of particles.
3. It should be placed in new bottles with new caps. The bottles should be clean and not sticky or dirty on the outside.
4. It should not be overheated. Temperatures of 150 degrees F. or less should be used.
5. Labels should be new and attractive in design.

Comb honey should be:

1. Well filled with the surface of the comb even and white.
2. The comb should be well attached on all four sides. The more sealed cells next the better.
3. The wood should be white and clean.
4. The sections be wrapped in cellophane.

Both kinds of honey should be the best obtainable from the entire season's crop. Only honey of fine flavor should be sent to Harrisburg. Honeydew is not adapted to show purposes.

Crystallized honey should be:

1. Smooth in texture and free of foam on top.
2. It should have a good flavor and be dry on top. The consistency of this honey should be the same all the way through.
3. It should be firm and not flow out

Reynoldsville Hardware Company

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AGE BEES AND BEESWAX

ORDERS FILLED SAME DAY AS RECEIVED

of the inverted jar.

Beeswax should be:

1. A bright yellow and free from staining caused by iron or other metals.
2. It should be entirely free from dirt, sediment, or particles of foreign material.
3. It should be formed into cakes or may be molded into attractive designs.
4. It should have a firm texture and a fine grain. It should not be soft or spongy.
5. It should be free from cracks caused by too rapid cooling.

ADVERTISING SPACE IN PENNSYLVANIA BEEKEEPER

It is interesting to note the amount of advertising space that has been sold for the Pennsylvania Beekeeper during the last few years. Records show the following amounts to have been sold:

| | |
|------------|----------|
| 1935 | \$227.75 |
| 1936 | 213.00 |
| 1937 | 237.40 |
| 1938 | 230.50 |
| 1939 | 290.50 |
| 1940 | 264.50 |
| 1941 | 326.02 |

It is interesting to note the gradual increase over a period of years. It would seem that under the present stimulus of business it would be easy to sell plenty of space but many concerns have more orders than they can fill and are saving the money that might go into advertising.

THREE-BANDED ITALIAN QUEENS

Bred by J. P. Hollopeter on the summit of the Allegheny Mountains from hardy, hustling, three-band Italian Stock. Queens ready about June first. Safe arrival and satisfaction guaranteed. Good untested queens, 50c each. Something extra nice in appearance and promise, 75c each.

White Pine Bee Farms, Rockton, Pa.

Clearfield County

BEEKEEPING AND DEFENSE

With the war machinery of the country getting into full gear it may be necessary for beekeepers to play a more important part in the program of national defense. During the last war a shortage of foods in general and sugar in particular made it advisable for the beekeeper to supply as much honey as possible. Should foods become less abundant again honey may be used to help fill the gap.

The beekeeper should keep all their equipment in good working condition and all hives full of bees so that the most honey may be obtained from equipment now on hand. They should also be ready to expand the industry if and when the call comes.

The production of honey for Pennsylvania was 7,350,000 pounds during 1941. This amount of honey would help out accordingly, and the quantity could be stepped up if need be.

The bees also produce much food indirectly. They are of great value for pollination of fruit, vegetables and clovers. Where bees are abundant, crops are heavier and the set of seed is greater. Strong colonies of bees are of real value and should be available during the blooming period.

DISEASE-RESISTANT QUEENS

By E. J. Anderson

Six queens were sent to as many Pennsylvania queen breeders last spring. These queens were reared in Texas and were from disease-resistant stock. They were sent to the breed-

ers so that competent observers might study the characteristics of this stock and report to the beekeepers of Pennsylvania. There has been as much interest in the general characteristics of this stock as in their resistance to disease.

The queens were shipped a little late in the season so that there was not sufficient time to check their bees completely either for working qualities or resistance to disease. The following, however, are the reports received from the breeders:

W. C. Lauver, Middletown

With reference to the disease-resistant queen that you sent us in the summer, am sorry that I did not have her sooner since she did not have a fair test through the main honey flow. She built up fairly well and I raised some queens from her. Her offspring did well here with us in fall since we had them in good shape for the fall honey flow. The queen maintained a good brood chamber through the fall flow.

The bees of the resistant queen are very gentle, easy to handle and have a very compact broodnest, however, there was lots of bald-head brood showing signs of inbreeding.

As for a trial on disease, we had no opportunity to try her out. There was one beekeeper in Cumberland County that had five colonies of bees and one of them developed foul brood and at Mr. Kirk's advice, he burned the diseased colony, then he requeened the other four. The results will only be known next summer.

Ronald Kirk, Rockton

The queen was introduced into a medium-sized colony and built the colony into a strong one in time to store

some surplus honey (extracted).

Her bees seem to have a grayish color as if they contained some Caucasian or Carniolan blood. They are fairly gentle.

I have requeened several colonies with queens that Mr. Hollopeter raised from his resistant-queen. It is too soon to tell much about them or the one I received. If I can get her wintered over, I want to raise some young queens next spring.

We had a very good honey year.

Charles E. Wayland, Mayport

I wish to state that I introduced the disease-resistant queen into a medium sized colony on June 25, 1941. I took no surplus honey from the colony, however, it did go into winter with sufficient honey and a good sized cluster of bees.

Bees in this colony were darker in color and had tendency to be more cross in temperment than my own.

I have distributed some daughters from this queen among my neighbors and in my own colonies but feel we have not had sufficient time to thoroughly test them.

P. S. Zeigler, Bethel

The temperment of the resistant queens was fair. They seemed to be cross but were not too bad to handle.

The queen and attendants I received, have a dusty-white appearance and were different from any bees I have seen. The offspring of this queen had the same appearance.

The queen was not in good shape when she arrived. She appeared weak and some of her attendants were dead. She seemed to pick up, however, after she was introduced into a small colony. She died in September.

PACKAGE BEES FOR 1942

TIME TESTED ITALIANS — THRIFTY AND GENTLE
No Disease. Prompt Shipment. Safely Delivered. Inquiries Solicited.
Liberal Dealer Discount.

GRENSHAW COUNTY APIARIES, Rutledge, Ala.

Her daughters look good and most of their colonies are in good shape for winter. We expect to know more about them by the end of next summer.

POLLINATION TEST ON ALFALFA

By Paul E. Stephens

A pollination test was made on part of a twenty-three acre field of Alfalfa to determine the effects of extensive pollination on the seed set. Alfalfa is a plant that is supposed to be self-fertilizing throughout the western states where most of the seed is produced. Very little seed has been produced in Pennsylvania. The seed set has always been too low to make a profitable crop.

Test cages were made by screening wood frames six by six by three feet high with bee tight cheese cloth netting. Two test plots were covered with these cages in adjoining uniform stands of the field, about 100 feet from the East end of the bee yard. One average-size colony of bees was placed so that the bees were inclosed in the first test plot. The second test plot excluded all bees from the enclosed alfalfa blossoms. The third plot was of equal size, but unscreened and adjoining the other two. The seed was removed from the three plots, cleaned, and counted by hand. Plot number one, with excessive pollination, yielded 3684 seeds. Plot number two, without insect pollination, yielded 724 seeds. Plot number three, one hundred feet from the bee yard, but otherwise under

normal field conditions, yielded 2418 seeds. This test proved definitely that in our climate honey bees are necessary for seed production.

The yield of honey was relatively low for the amount of blossoms. Possibly not over four hundred pounds of honey were harvested from the whole field.

I feel certain that similar results will be obtained on Red Clover seed production, but I know of no tests being made in this vicinity.

I have noticed that in combining about 500 acres of red clover seed that, the best yields are always obtained on the clover whose bloom occurred during the hottest and driest weather.

Excessive rains and cold weather may completely stop the action of pollinating insects with a consequent long brilliant bloom, and a very low seed set.

With a bee population of one colony per acre this year, the activity of the honey bees on the red clover was about four to ten times that of bumble bees depending on atmospheric temperature. The bumble bees are much more active at colder temperatures than honey bees.

I hope to be able to electrically record light intensity, atmospheric temperature, barometric pressure, wind velocity, dew point, relative humidity, and the hive weight and activity of three colonies of bees continuously throughout the year 1942. This information should be exceptionally valuable in more accurately scheduling farming, bloom dates, and beekeeping activities.

PACKAGE BEES AND QUEENS

From

APIARY OF PAUL ZEIGLER

CLEARWATER, FLORIDA

Orders received from now until April 15th. No shipments after April 20th. Discounts on large orders. 15% with order, rest at time of delivery.

| | |
|--|--------|
| 2 lb. with Queen | \$2.20 |
| 3 lb. with Queen | 2.85 |
| Queens \$.60, each added pound of bees | \$.65 |

ADAMS COUNTY NOTES

By Forest Bream

The winter losses of 1940 and 41 were severe in some apiaries. The loss was due largely to excessive moisture in the hives. It seems to be important to have the colonies placed in a location, where they will have a good windbreak and proper air drainage. The yard that had these two conditions suffered little loss.

Bees worked well on hard and soft maple and in some cases stored honey in extracting frames. This flow was followed by the fruit bloom which yielded quite a bit of honey. Some of my colonies that were placed in orchards for pollination actually stored honey in sections. This is unusual for our section of the country.

I also observed quite a difference in the way that different colonies worked the fruit bloom. The bees of some colonies carried pollen more eagerly and efficiently than did others. These traits seem to follow certain strains and races, some gathered more pollen, while others flew at lower temperatures. It would seem that a more efficient strain might be developed for the pollination of fruit.

Locust yielded fairly well, then we had a dry spell that lasted for about a month. We finally got a rain, which came about the middle of June. The bees then began to work the clovers and thistle. My bees averaged about 85 pounds per colony from these two sources.

It seems as though the clover honey flows are extending later into the summer than they did years ago. I used to make it a point to have my comb honey supers all off by July 4th but

for the last several years, the bees produced comb honey up until the middle of August. We had a dry spell this fall that almost ruined the clover seedlings. A few late rains came in time to save the clover. It looks fairly good for 1942.

Our fall flow was spotted. In some yards, the bees plugged the hives with honey while others a few miles distant stored scarcely any fall honey.

The bees went into winter fairly well supplied with young bees. They seemed to consume large quantities of their stores late in the fall.

Our honey markets have been very good. We have been sold out of comb honey for at least six weeks. This is the earliest that we have been sold out. We have been forced to buy some odd lots of comb honey in order to keep our retail market supplied.

A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to All.

BERKS COUNTY NOTES

By Paul Zeigler

The fall meeting of the Berks County Beekeepers Association was held on the evening of Tuesday, December 16th. Due to the absence of the other officers, the meeting was called to order by the secretary, Warren Boyer.

Edwin J. Anderson gave a talk on the composition of honey. He stressed the food value of honey and explained a number of steps to help improve the market for honey. Mr. R. Crumbring, the Deputy Bee Inspector from Bradford County, gave a short talk.

The election of officers followed the two talks. The following were elected: Paul Zeigler, President; Mr. Messimer, Vice-president; Warren Boyer, Secretary-Treasurer.



On stock at all times. Make our 88-year-old store your headquarters for Bee Supplies and for all Pump, Garden and Poultry Requirements. Catalog Free on request.

THE INDIANA HARDWARE
Indiana, Pa.

The Association has been buying honey jars at a discount for the members and in that way has saved the members considerable money.

The honeyflow was the best for some years. The average production for the better beekeepers was from 90 to 120 pounds per colony.

E. J. Anderson conducted a demonstration during the afternoon to show how to build a solar wax extractor.

BRADFORD COUNTY NOTES

By Harry W. Beaver

Another year has gone and another is in the offing. With the war going on, no one knows what is in store for us as beekeepers.

Honey has been selling well although not at sensational prices. We have been getting about one cent per pound more in large lots than last year. Help in the apiary was scarcer than during the other World War due, we think, to honey being at such a low price for several years. This would account for less young men desiring to learn the business. By cutting out all farming operations and not having an apple crop, we have been able to harvest one of the largest crops of honey we have ever produced with the help of one man, half-time, during the summer.

Bees went into winter quarters in fine shape with plenty of stores and young bees and for the most part young queens.

We have our wax accumulations all rendered up ready for sale. We did

not have as many discarded combs due to A. F. B. as usual. What we did have came from one yard—the one that the bears demolished last year. There was one F. B. colony, that was demolished. The bees that were left were cleaning up the mess when we first discovered it. That did the business and that yard of 64 colonies was a total loss. What the bears did not actually destroy, had to be killed on account of F. B. Did the state pay? Not one cent. In our present state of mind, we believe that if bears are to be protected as game, damage should be paid regardless or one should be allowed to kill them whenever found near the apiary.

Will honey advance in price? It is our guess that it will but perhaps not as much as during the last War. The stock of sugar is gradually being used up. I understand that it is being used for making alcohol for defense purposes. Unless substitutes are found for making alcohol, honey is bound to take the place of sugar to some extent. Beeswax prices have declined some, due, no doubt, to several large users having found satisfactory substitutes and the Brazil crop being now ready for shipment may still further depress prices. This may not be so bad for those that have to buy foundation, of which we have enough left from last season.

We have not been in any rush to get rid of our honey crop. In spite of this, when we get all orders filled on hand, we will have about 75% dis-

posed of. Honey sales usually slow up during January and February and with everything under control, wife and I had planned a vacation in the south. With gasoline and tire rationing in the offing, we are in a quandary if it is the wise thing to do. We wish you all a Happy New Year and a big honey crop the coming season.

BLAIR COUNTY NOTES

By Frederick Hahman

Honey sales, so far, have been somewhat slower than the previous year.

Perhaps the fact of a more abundant crop seeking a market, has spread over a larger number of beekeepers, each sharing in the gross amounts of sales. There is no doubt that many small producers have a larger inventory to dispose of.

In the face of such conditions, it would appear natural that prices might reflect a downward tendency, however, such does not show to any appreciable

extent. It is true that considerable quantities of honey are shipped into our territory, and sold by price cutting chain and department stores. This honey is sold for less money than our home producers can meet and still show a profit. Such conditions have existed for many years. They are more or less spasmodic, fortunately, they are represented in nearly all cases, by the offering of extracted honey. The honey being packed in 5 lb. tin cans, and retailed at from 40 cents to about 52 cents.

In view of such competition, it is better for our beekeepers to offer their honey in the 8 oz. and 16 oz. glass jars. Such packages come into less competition with honey sold by the cut-rate stores. They retail for about 12 cents for the 8 oz. jars and 20 cents for the 16 oz. jars, allowing a wholesale price of 8 and 15 cents respectively to store keepers.

The cut-rate stores do not seem able to offer honey in these minor glass

THANKS A HEAP

For your very generous orders during the past season.

**SEE OUR FUTURE ADS FOR INFORMATION
AND PRICES ON OUR NORTHERN
BRED BEES AND QUEENS**

We remain yours for service

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GROTON, N. Y.

Prompt Mail Service
FROM WYOMING COUNTY
SEND US YOUR ORDERS FOR BOTH
LEWIS and ROOT SUPPLIES
Gay Murray Company
TUNKHANNOCK
PENNA.

jars at the same ratio that they ask for tin pails, mainly on account of the higher freight rates for "honey in glass."

It is well known that purchasers of most food products prefer to buy in small quantities, thus the sales of the small containers can be vastly expanded, offering a good outlet for extracted honey.

The purchaser can see what he or she is buying, which is also a good point in its favor. It is advantageous to foster a home market, and pays to sell as much as possible at retail, direct to consumers.

Comb honey does not share in ruinous competition, partly because of less demand. There is quite a market for good comb honey at fair prices viz: 20 to 25 cents retail for No. 1 sections, with 12½ to 15 cents wholesale.

It requires more skill to produce fine comb honey than extracted honey also the fragile nature of the product does not lend itself so readily to ship-

ment, as does honey in tin cans. The comb honey also takes a much higher freight rate.

The honey season has been a bountiful one. Both the spring and the fall crop have been greater than for many years.

In some localities, honey-dew was gathered between the early white clover and the later one of white sweet clover. That condition was bad for comb honey because the partly filled section boxes received considerable of the black honey-dew during the short interval between the two clover crops. The appearance of many sections was ruined in this way.

The flow of nectar was not alike in all parts of our county. Most of the honey-dew flow occurred around Hollidaysburg, where Mr. R. M. Shoop's and Mr. W. E. Kelly's apiaries, as well as the writer's bee yard, are located. Practically none, was reported from the Altoona and Tyrone sections. These

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localities are from four to fifteen miles distant from the former.

The bees gathered a large fall crop of Aster honey of fine quality. Every available cell was packed to capacity. This unlooked-for flow resulted in crowding the queens, not a desirable condition for wintering.

The weather has been fine, with only a few cold snaps. All of the colonies are packed for wintering.

We had our first snow on December 8th, accompanied by freezing temperature.

ERIE COUNTY NOTES

By E. E. Root

The asters did not yield nectar during September because of dry weather. This condition is unusual for our section of the state since the wild aster is a very dependable honey plant.

The clover flow was, on the other hand, much above normal. A few colonies in the eastern part of the county produced as much as 250 pounds of extracted honey. Most of this surplus was from the clovers. The highest averages were found in the Waterford, Union City, and Northeast districts. I visited one beekeeper who produced 2,600 pounds of white clover honey from 40 colonies. Buckwheat and fall flowers produced as much more.

The bees went into winter quarters in good condition.

There seems to be quite a lot of A. F. B. in different sections of the county. I believe a lot of this could be avoided if individual beekeepers would watch their own bees and treat the disease as soon as it appears.

My honey is moving very fast. It keeps me going to keep up with the demand.

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TIOGA COUNTY NOTES

By Walter A. Doud

The bees have started the winter in good condition. They have plenty of stores and young bees. They had a flight in the early part of this month (Dec).

We had some rain this fall but not enough to put any moisture in the sub-soil. Wells and springs are going dry and water is scarce. Many families are hauling from neighbors. Some farmers are hauling water for stock. Due to the drouth clover seeding is very poor. There is very little white clover in pastures.

Honey is selling good on local markets, but with the largest crop we have ever harvested, we will have some more than our markets will take care of.

Now that hunting season is over, we will have to get back to work and get that beeswax made up and start on equipment for next year. Getting to work is not so bad, I was not able to get either a bear or deer this year. Now that we have five boys in the family we need to forage a little. We must be thankful that we have a good crop this year and that the conditions in this country are still good.

Hope to see you all at Harrisburg.

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REVIEW OF THE SEASON

When the season finally came to a close, it was found that many colonies in Southern Pennsylvania were short of food. The shortage was probably due to the spotted nature of the wild aster honey flow. This flower does not seem to yield as heavily in this section of the State as it does farther north. Soil types as well as rainfall were probably the limiting factors this fall. The

little white aster is very abundant in Southern Pennsylvania while the blue and larger white are abundant in the acid soils of Northern Pennsylvania. The southern types are less dependable especially when found on limestone soils. While traveling through Southern Pennsylvania in November, the writer examined a yard of thirty colonies. These colonies average about 15 pounds of honey each in the brood

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chamber. Fortunately, many of the colonies were provided with a super of honey, others were given sugar syrup to help carry them through winter. In some other sections the brood chambers are fairly well filled with honey.

The late fall gave the bees plenty of time to raise brood and ripen nectar so that bees are now in good shape for winter. The late brood rearing did deplete the winter supply of food so that considerable feeding may have to be done early next spring. Single story colonies will need closer watching than those with a food chamber.

Honey sales continue to move along at a satisfactory rate considering of

course the normal holiday slump.

The price and demand for beeswax have dropped some. It seems that there is considerable effort being made to find substitutes and as a result of this effort several have been found. One of these substitutes is wax extracted from sugar cane residue. A second substitute has been extracted from coal. The latter wax looks very much like beeswax.

LUZERNE COUNTY 4-H BEE CLUB

This year the Luzerne County Bee members and County Agent J. D. Hutchison, organized a Bee 4-H Club.

Mr. Hutchinson sent letters to boys

and girls, whom he thought would be interested enough in bees to join this club. The first meeting was a success with a total of thirteen. We then elected officers and planned for the coming season.

At our next meeting in May, there were only nine members present. The boys were interested, but either because of the transportation or farm work, they had to drop out. Now we have a total membership of eight.

Mr. E. J. Anderson was very much interested in our Club. Whenever possible, he attended our meetings. He and Mr. Hutchinson visited all Club members three times throughout the season and helped in any way they could.

We have tried to make our meetings as interesting as possible to the members and their friends. Prof. Anderson and Wm. Robbins, Jr. were

two guest speakers at our summer meetings.

In July we had a weiner roast, which was well attended. It was the most successful event we had this year.

On August 26th, Mr. Hutchison and the members went to Sailorsburg to visit Roy Howell's Honey Cellar. Mrs. Howell demonstrated the methods they used in bottling honey. She also gave each member a taste of all their different flavors of honey.

On October 29th, the members met with County Agent, Mr. Hutchison, and Prof. Anderson to have their Bee Round-Up—that is, each member gave a brief report on his knowledge of bees and production. Ribbons were awarded and books were marked.

We hope when all 4-H Bee reports are returned, Luzerne County 4-H Bee Club comes out on top.

Jessie Johnson,
Secretary

Lewis
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**End of
Volume**